

# FACT SHEET

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

As you work your way through the special education process, you will encounter a myriad of acronyms and abbreviations. Listed below are some of the most commonly used acronyms and abbreviations.

**ADA** – Americans with Disabilities Act

**AEP** – Alternative Education Placement

**APE** – Adaptive Physical Education

**ARD** – Admission, Review, & Dismissal

**AT** – Assistive Technology

**BIP** – Behavior Intervention Plan

**CA** – Chronological Age

**CBA** – Curriculum Based Assessment

**CBI** – Community Based Instruction

**CBVI** – Community Based Vocational Instruction

**CM** – Content Mastery

**CTE** – Career and Technology Education

**DAEP** – Disciplinary Alternative Education Program

**ECI** – Early Childhood Intervention

**EI** – Early Intervention

**ESL** – English as a Second Language

**ESY** – Extended School Year

**FAPE** – Free Appropriate Public Education

**FBA** – Functional Behavioral Assessment

**FERPA** – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

**FIE** – Full and Individual Evaluation

**FIIE** – Full Initial and Individual Evaluation

**IA** – Instructional Assistant

**IDEA** – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

**IEE** – Independent Educational Evaluation

**IEP** – Individualized Education Program (may also be used to refer to Individual Education Plan)

**ITP** – Individual Transition Plan

**LEP** – Limited English Proficient



**LPAC** – Language Proficiency Assessment Committee  
**LRE** – Least Restrictive Environment  
**MDR** – Manifestation Determination Review  
**O&M** – Orientation & Mobility  
**OT** – Occupational Therapy  
**PLAAFP** – Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance  
**PPCD** – Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities  
**PT** – Physical Therapy/Therapist  
**RTI**—Response to Intervention  
**SLP**– Speech Language Pathologist (Speech and Language Therapist)  
**STAAR**– State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
**TAC** – Texas Administrative Code  
**TEC** – Texas Education Code  
**TEKS** – Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills  
**VAC** – Vocational Adjustment Class

Here are some of the most commonly used acronyms and abbreviations in reference to Local, State and Federal Agencies that you should be familiar with:

**DADS** – Department of Aging and Disability Services  
**DARS** – Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services  
**DOE** – Department of Education  
**DSHS** – Department of State Health Services  
**EEOC** – Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
**ESC** – Education Service Center  
**HHSC** – Health and Human Services Commission  
**LEA** – Local Education Agency  
**OCR** –Office for Civil Rights (under Department of Education)  
**OSEP** – Office of Special Education Programs  
**OSERS** – Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services  
**SBOE** – State Board of Education  
**SEA** – State Education Agency  
**TEA** – Texas Education Agency



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