

# A Family Guide to Acronyms in Education “Alphabet Soup”



## A Acronyms:

- AA** | Alternate Assessment
- AAC** | Augmentative and Alternative Communication
- AAE** | Adaptive & Assistive Equipment
- AAIDD** | American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- AAPD** | American Association of People with Disabilities
- AASCD** | Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
- ABA** | Applied Behavior Analysis
- ABC** | Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
- ABLE Act** | Achieving a Better Life Experience
- ACB** | American Council of the Blind
- ACBO** | American Council of the Blind of Ohio
- ACIL** | Access Center for Independent Living
- ACS** | Academic Content Standards
- ACT** | American College Test (no longer goes by full name, only acronym)
- ADA** | Americans with Disabilities Act
- ADD** | Attention Deficit Disorder
- ADHD** | Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- ADLs** | Activities of Daily Living
- ADR** | Alternative Dispute Resolution
- AE** | Age Equivalent
- AFB** | American Foundation for the Blind
- AIM** | Accessible Instructional Materials
- AIR** | American Institutes for Research
- APE** | Adapted Physical Education
- APR** | Annual Performance Report

**The Arc of Ohio** | Advancing the Rights of Ohio Citizens with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families

**ARD** | Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee

**ASA** | Autism Society of America

**ASD** | Autism Spectrum Disorder

**ASL** | American Sign Language

**ASLHA** | American Speech-Language Hearing Association

**ASQ** | Ages and Stages Questionnaires®

**ASQ:SE** | Ages and Stages Questionnaires®: Social-Emotional

**AT** | Assistive Technology

**ATA** | Assistive Technology Act

**ATAEM** | Assistive Technology & Accessible Educational Materials Center

**AYP** | Adequate Yearly Progress

### **B Acronyms:**

**BANA** | Braille Authority of North America

**BCMh** | Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (at ODH)

**BD** | Behavioral Disorder

**BI** | Brain Injury

**BIE** | Bureau of Indian Education

**BIP** | Behavior Intervention Plan

**BLT** | Building Leadership Team

**BOE** | Board of Education

**BSVI** | Bureau of Service for the Visually Impaired

**BVR** | Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

### **C Acronyms:**

**C&I** | Curriculum and Instruction

**CAP** | Corrective Action Plan

**CAP** | Client Assistance Program

**CAPD** | Central Auditory Processing Disorder

**CAPTA** | Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act

**CASA** | Court Appointed Special Advocate

**CBI** | Career-Based Intervention

**CBI** | Content-Based Instruction

**CBA** | Curriculum Based Assessment

Taken from website repository [www.parentcenterhub.org](http://www.parentcenterhub.org), "Alphabet Soup: A Guide to Disability Related Acronyms" by Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us) "Acronyms used by or related to the Ohio Department of Education" and Parent Mentor of Centerville | Oakwood City Schools.

**CBM** | Curriculum Based Measurement  
**CBT** | Cognitive Behavior Therapy  
**CEC** | Council for Exceptional Children  
**CETE** | Center on Education and Training for Employment  
**CC** | Closed Captioning  
**CCIP** | Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan  
**CCSS** | Common Core State Standards  
**CD** | Cognitive Disability (replaced by Intellectual Disability as disability category)  
**CDA** | Child Development Associate  
**CDC** | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
**CEC** | Council for Exceptional Children  
**CF** | Cystic Fibrosis  
**CFR** | Code of Federal Regulations  
**CHADD** | Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder  
**CHIP** | Children's Health Insurance Program  
**CIFMS** | Continuous Improvement and Focused Monitoring System  
**CILO** | Center for Independent Living Options  
**CMMI** | Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation  
**CMS** | Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
**COP** | Community of Practice  
**COS** | Child Outcomes Summary  
**COTA** | Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant  
**CP** | Cerebral Palsy  
**CPIR** | Center for Parent Information and Resources  
**CPRC** | Community Parent Resource Center  
**CS** | Community School  
**CSD** | City School District  
**CSHCN** | Children with Special Health Care Needs  
**CSLT** | Community School Leadership Team  
**CSPD** | Comprehensive System of Personnel Development  
**CST** | Child Study Team  
**CTC** | Career Technology Center  
**CTE** | Career-Technical Education  
**CTP** | Comprehensive Transition Program  
**CTPD** | Career-Technical Planning District  
**CWD** | Child with a Disability

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## **D Acronyms:**

- DB** | Deaf-Blindness
- DD** | Developmental Disabilities
- DDC** | Developmental Disabilities Council
- DDD** | Division of Disability Determination
- DD Act** | Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act
- DDS** | Developmental Disabilities Services
- DHHS** | Department of Health and Human Services
- D/HOH** | Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- DIBELS** | Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy
- DODD** | Department of Developmental Disabilities
- DoDDS** | Department of Defense Dependent Schools
- DP** | Due Process
- DPOA** | Durable Power of Attorney
- DRA** | Developmental Reading Assessment
- DS** | Down Syndrome
- DSM** | Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders by the American Psychiatric Association

## **E Acronyms:**

- EBP** | Evidence Based Practice
- ECE** | Early Childhood Education
- ECSE** | Early Childhood Special Education
- ED** | Emotional Disturbance
- ED** | U.S. Department of Education
- EDGAR** | Education Department General Administrative Regulations
- EFT** | Employment First Taskforce
- EHA** | Education of the Handicapped Act (now IDEA)
- EHDI** | Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program
- EI** | Early Intervention
- EIS** | Early Intervening Services
- ELA** | Early Learning Assessment
- ELC** | Early Learning Challenge
- ELL** | English Language Learner
- ELSR** | Early Learning School Readiness
- EMIS** | Education Management Information System

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**EOB** | Explanation of Benefits  
**EOC** | End of Course Exams  
**EPSDT** | Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment  
**ERIC** | Education Resources Information Center  
**ESC** | Educational Service Center  
**ESD** | Extended School Day  
**ESL** | English as a Second Language  
**ESEA** | Elementary and Secondary Education Act (now called ESSA)  
**ESL** | English as a Second Language  
**ESOL** | English for Speakers of Other Languages  
**ESSA** | Every Student Succeeds Act  
**ESY or EYS** | Extended School Year or Extended Year Services  
**ETR** | Evaluation Team Report  
**EVSD** | Exempted Village School Districts

#### **F Acronyms:**

**FAPE** | Free Appropriate Public Education  
**FAQ** | Frequently Asked Questions  
**FAS** | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
**FBA** | Functional Behavior Assessment  
**FC** | Facilitated Communication  
**FCE** | Family & Community Engagement  
**FCFC** | Family & Children First Council  
**FEOG** | Full Educational Opportunity Goal  
**FERPA** | Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act  
**FHA** | Fair Housing Act  
**FMLA** | Family Medical Leave Act  
**FOIA** | Freedom of Information Act  
**FY** | Fiscal Year

#### **G Acronyms:**

**GAI** | General Ability Index (WISC)  
**GAL** | Guardian Ad Litem  
**GAO** | U.S. Government Accountability Office  
**GCPD** | Governor's Council on People with Disabilities  
**GE** | General Education

**GE** | Grade Equivalent  
**GED** | General Educational Development  
**GPA** | Grade Point Average  
**GPRA** | Government Performance and Results Act  
**GRF** | General Revenue Fund  
**GT** | Gifted and Talented

**H, I, J & K Acronyms:**

**HCBS** | Home and Community Based Services  
**HI** | Hearing Impaired  
**HIPAA** | Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act  
**HMG** | Help Me Grow  
**HO** | Hearing Officer  
**HoH** | Hard of Hearing  
**HOUSSE** | High Objective Uniform State Standards of Evaluation  
**HQPD** | High Quality Professional Development  
**HQT** | Highly Qualified Teacher (The definitions and requirements associated with the term "highly qualified teachers" has been deleted from both general and special education legislation as of December 2015. You may still hear this term, but it will soon be a relic left over from past legislation)  
**HUD** | Housing and Urban Development  
**I&R** | Information and Referral  
**IA** | Instructional Assistant  
**IAEP** | Interim Alternative Educational Placement  
**IAES** | Interim Alternative Educational Setting  
**IAT** | Intervention Assistance Team  
**ICDS** | Medicare-Medicaid Integrated Care Delivery System  
**ICP** | Individual Career Plan  
**ID** | Intellectual Disabilities  
**IDEA/IDEIA** | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act/Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act  
**IEE** | Individualized Educational Evaluation  
**IEP** | Individualized Education Program  
**IES** | Institute of Education Sciences  
**IFA** | Individualized Functional Assessment  
**IFSP** | Individualized Family Service Plan

**IHE** | Institution of Higher Education

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**IHO** | Impartial Hearing Officer  
**IL** | Independent Living  
**IMS** | Instructional Management System  
**IRL** | Instructional Resource Level  
**IS** | Intervention Specialist  
**ISP** | Individualized Service Plan  
**IT** | Itinerant Teacher  
**ITCA** | Infants and Toddlers Coordinators Association  
**ITP** | Individualized Transition Plan  
**JAN** | Job Accommodation Network  
**JVS** | Joint Vocational School  
**KRA-L** | Kindergarten Readiness Assessment-Literacy  
**KTEA** | Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement

**L, M, and N Acronyms:**

**LD** | Learning Disability  
**LDA** | Learning Disability Association  
**LEA** | Local Education Agency  
**LEP** | Limited English Proficiency  
**LLI** | Leveled Literacy Intervention  
**LPDC** | Local Professional Development Committee  
**LRE** | Least Restrictive Environment  
**LTSS** | Long-term Services and Supports  
**MAP** | Measure of Academic Progress  
**MD** | Muscular Dystrophy  
**MD or MH** | Multiple Disabilities or Multiply Handicapped  
**MDA** | Muscular Dystrophy Association  
**MDR** | Manifestation Determination Review  
**MFE** | Multi-Factored Evaluation  
**MH** | Mental Health  
**MITIS** | Medicaid Information Technology System  
**MTSS** | Multi-tiered Systems of Supports  
**MOU** | Memorandum of Understanding  
**MS** | Multiple Sclerosis  
**NAEP** | National Assessment of Educational Progress  
**NAEYC** | National Association for the Education of Young Children

**NAMI** | National Alliance on Mental Illness  
**NASDSE** | National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
**NCBDD** | National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (at CDC)  
**NCLB** | No Child Left Behind Act (Elementary and Secondary Education Act, reauthorized in 2015 as ESSA, Every Student Succeeds Act)  
**NIMAC** | National Instructional Materials Accessibility Center  
**NIH** | National Institutes of Health  
**NIMAS** | National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard  
**NIMH** | National Institute of Mental Health  
**NPRM** | Notice of Proposed Rule Making

**O Acronyms:**

**OACS-E** | Ohio's Academic Content Standards – Extended  
**OAA** | Ohio Achievement Assessment (replaced by Ohio State Tests (OST)  
**OCALI** | Ohio Center for Autism & Low Incidence  
**OCD** | Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder  
**OCECD** | Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities  
**OCR** | Office of Civil Rights  
**ODE** | Ohio Department of Education  
**ODD** | Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
**ODDC** | Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council  
**ODH** | Ohio Department of Health  
**ODJFS** | Ohio Department of Job & Family Services  
**ODMH** | Ohio Department of Mental Health  
**ODMHAS** | Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services  
**OEA** | Ohio Education Association  
**OEC** | Office for Exceptional Children  
**OEDS** | Ohio Educational Directory System  
**OGT** | Ohio Graduation Tests  
**OHI** | Other Health Impairment  
**OHP** | Office of Ohio Health Plans  
**OHT** | Ohio Governor's Office of Health Transformation  
**OI** | Orthopedic Impairment  
**OIP** | Ohio Improvement Process  
**OLRS** | Ohio Legal Rights Service  
**OLTS** | Ohio Longitudinal Transition Study

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**O & M** | Orientation and Mobility Services  
**OMJ** | Ohio Means Jobs  
**OOD** | Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities  
**ORC** | Ohio Revised Code  
**ORF** | Oral Reading Fluency  
**OSD** | Ohio School for the Deaf  
**OSEP** | Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education  
**OSSB** | Ohio State School for the Blind  
**OST** | Ohio State Tests  
**OT** | Occupational Therapy

**P and R Acronyms:**

**P&A** | Protection & Advocacy  
**PALS** | Peer-Assisted Learning System  
**PARA** | Paraprofessional  
**PASS** | Plan for Achieving Self-Support  
**PBIS** | Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support  
**PBM** | Positive Behavior Management  
**PBS** | Positive Behavior Supports  
**PCA** | Personal Care Attendant  
**PCN** | Primary Care Nurse  
**PD** | Physical Disability  
**PDD** | Pervasive Developmental Disorder  
**Perkins Act** | Carl Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act  
**PII** | Personally Identifiable Information  
**PLEP or PLOP** | Present Level of Educational Performance or Present Level of Performance  
**PP** | Paraprofessional  
**PRI** | Perceptual Reasoning Index  
**PS** | Preschool  
**PSAT** | Preliminary State Aptitude Test  
**PSE** | Preschool Special Education  
**PT** | Physical Therapy  
**PTAC** | Parent Technical Assistance Center  
**PTI** | Parent Training and Information Center  
**PTSD** | Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  
**PPO** | Preferred Provider Organization

**RAP** | Reading Achievement Plan  
**RDA** | Results-Driven Accountability  
**RFP** | Request for Proposals  
**RIMP** | Reading Improvement Plan  
**RS** | Related Services  
**RTI** | Response to Intervention

### **S Acronyms:**

**§** | This symbol means "Section" as in "§ 300.7 Child with a disability" in the IDEA regulations  
**SAMHSA** | Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
**SAS** | Supplementary Aids and Services  
**SAT** | Scholastic Aptitude Test  
**SB** | Spina Bifida  
**SCHIP** | State Children's Health Insurance Program  
**SD** | Student(s) with a Disability  
**SE** | Special Education  
**SEA** | State Education Agency  
**SEAC** | Special Education Advisory Committee  
**Section 504** | Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act  
**SI** | Sensory Integration  
**SIB** | Sibling  
**SIG** | State Improvement Grant  
**SIL** | Services for Independent Living  
**SIMR** | State-Identified Measurable Results for Children with Disabilities  
**SIP** | State Implementation Plan  
**SLD** | Specific Learning Disability  
**SLI** | Speech/Language Impairment  
**SLO** | Student Learning Objectives  
**SLP** | Speech/Language Pathologist  
**SLRO** | State Level Review Officer  
**SLT** | Speech/Language Therapist  
**SPDG** | State Personnel Development Grant  
**SPOA** | Specific Power of Attorney  
**SPP** | State Performance Plan  
**SOP** | Summary of Performance  
**SRBI** | Scientific Research Based Intervention

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**SS** | Standard Score  
**SSA** | Service and Support Administration  
**SSA** | Social Security Administration  
**SSDI** | Social Security Disability Insurance  
**SSI** | Supplemental Security Income  
**SSIP** | State Systemic Improvement Plan  
**SST** | State Support Team  
**STABLE** | State Achieving a Better Life Experience ("ABLE") Act  
**STAR** | Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading  
**STEM** | Science, Technology, Engineering & Math  
**SUTQ** | Step Up to Quality  
**SWD** | Student with a Disability

### **T to Z Acronyms:**

**TA** | Technical Assistance  
**TA&D** | Technical Assistance and Dissemination Network funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)  
**TANF** | Temporary Assistance to Needy Families  
**TBI** | Traumatic Brain Injury  
**TBT** | Teacher Based Team  
**TDD** | Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf  
**TGRG** | Third Grade Reading Guarantee  
**TS** | Tourette Syndrome  
**T-TA** | Training and Technical Assistance  
**TTY** | Teletypewriter (phone system for the deaf)  
**TVI** | Teacher of Vision Impaired  
**TWWIA** | Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act  
**UEB** | Unified English Braille  
**USDOE** | United States Department of Education  
**VCI** | Verbal Comprehension Index  
**VI** | Visual Impairment  
**Voc Ed** | Vocational Education  
**VR** | Vocational Rehabilitation  
**WIAT** | Wechsler Individual Achievement Test®  
**WIC** | Women, Infants and Children (Special Supplemental Food Program)  
**WISC** | Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (psychological evaluation – sometimes called WISC-R or WISC-III)

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**WJ** | Woodcock–Johnson Tests of Cognitive Abilities

**WWC** | What Works Clearinghouse

**YLF** | Youth Leadership Forum

**Disability Categories:**

Autism  
Deaf-Blindness  
Deafness  
Developmental Delay  
Emotional Disturbance  
Hearing Impairment  
Intellectual Disability  
Multiple Disabilities  
Orthopedic Impairment-Major and Minor  
Other Health Impairment  
Specific Learning Disabilities  
Speech or Language Impairment  
Traumatic Brain Injury  
Visual Impairment including Blindness

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