

Helpful Resources You Need to Know for *What A Great IDEA!*

Parent to Parent of Georgia is Your 1st Stop for Help! www.p2pga.org
800-229-2038

Where Can I Get More Information on IDEA?

IDEA 2004: Building the Legacy <http://idea.ed.gov/>
National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
<http://www.nichcy.org/>
800-695-0285
Link to Georgia State Resources www.nichcy.org/stateshe/ga.htm
U. S. Department of Education www.ed.gov
General Inquiries 800-872-5327
Office of Special Education Programs www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/
202-245-7459

Where Can I Get More Information about Babies Can't Wait and Other Early Childhood Programs and Services in Georgia?

Babies Can't Wait/Early Intervention www.health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw
To Find Your Service Coordinator 800-229-2038
State BCW Office 888-651-8224
Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
Child Care, Pre-K <http://dec.al.ga.gov/>
888-442-7735
Georgia Head Start Association <http://www.georgiaheadstart.org/>
404-943-1070
Georgia Parent Infant Network for Educational Services (Georgia PINES)
(Serving children with hearing, vision, sensory impairments)
www.gapines.net
800-522-8652
Center for Disease Control Learn the Signs Act Early Campaign
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>
800-232-4636

Where Can I Get More Information About Special Education in Georgia?

Georgia Department of Education www.gadoe.org
Ask the DOE (State School Superintendent's Help Desk)
<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/External-Affairs-and-Policy/AskDOE/Pages/default.aspx>
800-311-3627 or email: askdoe@gadoe.org
Special Education Supports & Services http://www.gadoe.org/ci_exceptional.aspx
Special Education Rules 404-656-3963 or 404-651-6457
Special Education Implementation Manual
Sample forms (IEP, notices, letters, parent rights, consents, etc.):

Helpful Resources You Need to Know for *What A Great IDEA!*

Where Can I Get More Information to Help as My Child Transitions Out of High School?

Georgia Department of Labor	404-486-6331 or 1-866-489-0001
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	www.vocrehabga.org
Technical College System of Georgia	http://www.tcsg.edu/
	404-679-1600
Equity/Special Populations Coordinator	229-271-4066

Where Can I Get More Information about My Rights and My Child's Rights?

Georgia Department of Education Parent Rights (additional languages also available)
<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Parent-Rights.aspx>

Babies Can't Wait Parent Rights Notice (additional languages also available)
<http://www.health.state.ga.us/pdfs/familyhealth/bcw/notice/English%20Parent%20Rights%20Booklet.pdf>

Where Can I Get More Information about How to Resolve Disagreements?

Georgia Department of Education
<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Dispute-Resolution.aspx>

Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE)
<http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/>
541-686-5060

Wrightslaw
<http://www.wrightslaw.com/>

Where Can I Find More Information about Reponse to Intervention?

National Center for Learning Disabilities
<http://www.nclld.org/learning-disability-resources/ebooks-guides-toolkits/parent-guide-response-intervention>

Georgia Department of Education
<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Response-to-Intervention.aspx>

Where Can I Find More Information about 504 Plans?

Office for Civil Rights
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html>

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
<http://nichcy.org/laws/section504>

Where Can I Talk To Another Parent?

Parent to Parent of Georgia	www.p2pga.org or email: info@p2pga.org
Supporting Parents & Local Navigator Teams	800-229-2038 or 770-451-5484
Parent Mentor Partnership	http://www.parentmentors.org/



Alphabet Soup for What a Great IDEA!

Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Words to Know



- **Accommodations** – changes in instruction that enable children to demonstrate their abilities in the classroom or assessment/test setting. Designed to provide students with disabilities equal opportunity, not advantage. May include assistive technology as well as changes in presentation, response, scheduling or settings.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** - federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination solely on the basis of disability in employment, public services, and accommodations.
- **Child Find** - a federally mandated process to identify, locate, and evaluate children who are suspected of having disabilities that may need special education and related services.
- **Consent** – requirement that parent be fully informed of all information that relates to any action that early intervention or school wants to take about the child; consent is voluntary and can be revoked at any time.
- **Due Process Hearing** – administrative hearing conducted by an impartial hearing officer or administrative law judge; procedure to resolve disputes between parents and early intervention or school systems.
- **Evaluation** – procedures used to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that a child needs.
- **Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)** – special education and related services provided at public expense, under public supervision and direction; that meet the State’s standards; applicable to children in preschool, elementary and secondary school; provided according to an individualized education program (IEP).
- **Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE)** – state agency responsible for public education for all children in Georgia including children 3-22 years of age who are eligible for special education services and supports.
- **Eligibility Determination** - a decision made by a team of parents and professionals about whether a child qualifies for special education services under the IDEA. In order to be eligible for services, the child must have a disability and because of the disability, need specialized instruction.
- **Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE)** - an evaluation conducted by qualified individuals who are not employees of the school system.
- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** – federal education law that provides financial assistance to state and local education agencies to guarantee special education and related services to eligible children with disabilities.
 - **Part B** relates to the assistance to states for the education of children with disabilities who are ages 3 through 21. Part B is administered by the GaDOE and carried out by LEAs and other public agencies.
 - **Part C** relates to the assistance to states for the early intervention programs for infants and toddlers, ages birth to 3, with disabilities. In Georgia, Part C is administered by the Department of Public Health as the Babies Can’t Wait (BCW) program.
- **Individualized Education Program (IEP)** – a written plan for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed and revised in accordance with IDEA 2004.

- **IEP Team** – a group of individuals responsible for developing, reviewing or revising an IEP for a child with a disability. Team members include parents, regular education teacher, special education teacher, someone who understands and can explain the evaluation results, and someone from the local school system that is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum and the school system’s resources. Additional team members may include the child with a disability, related services personnel, and other agency representatives.
- **Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)** – a written plan for services to an infant or toddler in Part C/Babies Can’t Wait.
- **LEA – Local Education Agency** – local education agency or school district.
- **LRE – Least Restrictive Environment** – legal requirement to educate children with disabilities in general education classrooms with children who do not have disabilities to the maximum extent possible.
- **Mediation** - a dispute resolution process that uses a trained person (mediator) to assist parents and the early intervention or school system in coming to their own agreements about how to resolve their conflict or dispute. Unlike a judge or arbitrator, the mediator does not decide the outcome of the dispute.
- **Modifications** – changes that lower or reduce learning expectations. May increase the gap between the achievement of students with disabilities and expectations for proficiency at a particular grade level.
- **People First Language** - a way of speaking that puts the person before the disability. An example would be that a person *has* Autism instead of saying the person *is* Autistic.
- **Parent Training and Information Center (PTI)** - funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Serves families with children of all ages (birth to 26) and all disabilities; provides a variety of services including one-on-one support and assistance, training, information and resources, and web sites. Parent to Parent of Georgia serves as the PTI for Georgia.
- **Referral** - if the student continues to struggle in the general education classroom after interventions have been implemented, school personnel may refer the child for a special education evaluation. Referrals for determination of eligibility for special education services may be made by the school, by the child’s parents, or any other person involved in the child’s education or care.
- **Response to Intervention (RTI)** - process by which schools identify students at risk for poor learning outcomes, monitor their progress, provide interventions, and adjust the intensity and type of interventions depending on how the student responds. Georgia’s model is known as the Georgia Student Achievement Pyramid of Interventions.
- **Resolution session** – a meeting held after a due process hearing has been requested; allows an opportunity to resolve the due process hearing request without going to the hearing.
- **Section 504** – of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 – federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in public and private programs and activities that receive federal funds.
- **Special Education** - specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability. (IDEA §300.39)

Credits: Georgia Department of Education Special Education Rules
 National Center on Response to Intervention
 Wrightslaw Special Education Law (2nd Edition)