

# Common Acronyms/Abbreviations Used in Education

Acronym	Term
504 Plan	A 504 plan is a legal document falling under the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is designed to plan a program of instructional services to assist students with special needs who are in a regular education setting. A 504 plan is not an Individualized Education Program (IEP) as is required for special education students. However, a student moving from a special education to a regular education placement could be placed under a 504 plan.
ACT	American College Test. An assessment taken by students as a precursor to college/university admission.
ADA	American with Disabilities Act
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
AIMSweb	A popular RtI program offered by Pearson
AIS	Academic intervention services
AP	Advanced Placement. A program that enables high school students to complete college-level courses for college placement and/or credit.
ASCD	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
AYP	Adequate Yearly Progress - A former measure under No Child Left Behind used by the state to gauge yearly progress of student subgroups toward meeting 100 proficiency in reading and mathematics.
BEDS	Basic Educational Data System - Reporting required by NYSED
BOE	Board of Education
BRIC Countries	Brazil, Russia, India and China, which are all deemed to be at a similar stage of newly advanced economic development
CAP	Comprehensive Attendance Policy
CPSE	Committee on Preschool Special Education
CSE	Committee on Special Education
CTE	Career and Technical Education
CTGP	Catholic Elementary Tuition Grant Program - for parish schools only
DIRI	Documentation of Integration of Required Instruction in 7th and 8th Grade
ED	Emotional Disturbed
ELA	English/Language Arts
ELL	English Language Learner - Student's first language is not English and requires remediation to participate in school.
ESEA	Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This is the principal federal law affecting K-12 education. When the ESEA of 1965 was reauthorized and amended in 2002, it was renamed the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.
ESL	English as a Second Language. A program model that delivers specialized instruction to students who are learning English as a new language.
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FTE	Full-time Equivalency

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GED	General Education Development Test. (A GED Diploma may be granted if the individual passes the GED Test.)
GRE	Graduate Record Examination
GT	Gifted and Talented
HIPAA	The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) - The Office for Civil Rights enforces the HIPAA Privacy Rule, which protects the privacy of individually identifiable health information; the HIPAA Security Rule, which sets national standards for the security of electronic protected health information; the HIPAA Breach Notification Rule, which requires covered entities and business associates to provide notification following a breach of unsecured protected health information; and the confidentiality provisions of the Patient Safety Rule, which protect identifiable information being used to analyze patient safety events and improve patient safety.
HSA	Home and School Association
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This federal law, reauthorized in 2004, is designed to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free and appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment and independent living.
IEP	Individualized Education Plan/Program
IESP	Individualized Education Services Program - special education services for parentally placed nonpublic school children
LD	Learning Disabled
LEA	Local Education Agency. Synonymous with a local Public school system or a local public school district
LEP	Limited English Proficient. Students whose first language is one other than English who need language assistance to participate fully in the regular curriculum and the statewide assessment system.
LMS	Learning Management System. A software application that is used to administer, document, track, report and deliver educational courses or training programs.
LRE	Least-Restrictive Environment
MSR	Mandated Services Reimbursement (NYS)
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress. Also known as the "Nation's Report Card," NAEP assesses the educational achievement of elementary and secondary students in various subject areas. It provides data for comparing the performance of students in North Carolina to that of their peers nationwide.
NCEA	National Catholic Educational Association
NCLB	No Child Left Behind. NCLB is the 2002 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and represents a sweeping change in the federal government's role in local public education. NCLB's primary goal is for all public school children to be proficient or above in reading and mathematics by 2013-14. Title I schools that do not meet certain student achievement standards face sanctions under this law.
NEA	National Education Association
NYS	New York State
NYSED	New York State Education Department
NYSESLAT	New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test
OT	Occupational Therapist; Occupational Therapy
PARCC	Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

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PBIS	Positive Behavior Intervention and Support. Positive Behavior Intervention and Support programs are a way to impact school learning environments by establishing and reinforcing clear behavioral expectations in order to support high student performance and to reduce behavioral problems. PBIS site schools work to integrate their Safe Schools Plans, character education efforts and strategies, and discipline efforts in order to make the schools caring and safe communities for learning.
PD	Professional Development. The term refers to skills and knowledge attained for both personal development and career advancement such as continuous courses, workshops, activities and learning objectives aimed at helping professional educators and staff members improve their skills in their fields.
PLC	Professional Learning Communities. PLCs are defined by collaborative inquiry, shared decision-making and joint planning of instruction among teachers. Teachers are provided structured time to work together in planning instruction, observing each other's classrooms, and sharing feedback.
PSAT	Pre-Scholastic Assessment Test. Normally taken by high school juniors as a practice test for the SAT. Some schools use the PSAT as a diagnostic tool to identify areas where students may need additional assistance or placement in more rigorous courses.
PT	Physical Therapist; Physical Therapy
RtI	Response to Intervention - a school district's process to determine if a student responds to scientific, research-based instruction. <a href="http://www.nysrti.org/">http://www.nysrti.org/</a>
RTTT or RttT	Race to the Top. RttT is a federal grant program that supports the efforts of the state, local school districts and many charter schools.
SAT	The SAT is often taken by high school juniors and seniors as a precursor to college/university admission. It assesses a student's verbal, mathematical and writing skills.
SD	School District
SEA	State Education Agency. Federal term for each state education department.
SED	State Education Department
SEDDAS	State Education Department Delegated Account System
SIRS	Student Information Repository System (NYS)
SIS	Student Information System. SIS is a software application educational institutions use to manage student data such as enrollment. Also sometimes called a student information management system (SIMS).
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. STEM curriculum emphasizes connections within and between the fields of mathematics and science; integrates technology; introduces and engages students in the engineering design process; cultivates creativity; and develops skills that drive innovation.
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.
STREAM	Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.
TESOL	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
Title I	Title I is the largest federal education funding program for schools. Its aim is to help students who are behind academically or at risk of falling behind. School funding is based on the number of low-income children, generally those eligible for the free and reduced price lunch program. Title I used to be known as Chapter I.
Title IIa	Federal funding, via public school district, for teacher and administrator Professional Development (PD).
Title III	Title III is the section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that provides funding and addresses English language acquisition and standards and accountability requirements for limited English proficient students.
Title IX	Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 bans sex discrimination in schools receiving federal funds, whether it is in academics or athletics.
USDOE	US Department of Education
USED	United States Education Department. <a href="http://www.ed.gov">www.ed.gov</a>