

Special Education Areas of Disability

Students who qualify for special education do so based upon one or more of the following areas:

Autism, Cognitive Disability, Deaf-blindness, Deafness, Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Impairment, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech and Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Visual Impairment Including Blindness. All areas of disability are more clearly explained on page 62 of the "Whose IDEA is It?" document.

To qualify for one of these areas of disability, a Multi-factored Evaluation must be conducted. In an evaluation, the team gathers information about your child's abilities and challenges. The team may present RTI (Response to Intervention) data, as well. You and your child's educational team then use this information to determine whether your child qualifies as a student with a disability. If your child does qualify, the team then determines to what extent your child needs special education services in order to make progress.