

ALPHABET SOUP

THIS LIST MAY COME IN HANDY
WHEN YOU HEAR ABBREVIATIONS
THAT ARE NEW TO YOU.

A, B, and C

ABA	Applied Behavioral Analysis
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AOTA	American Occupational Therapy Association
APA	American Psychological Association
APTA	American Physical Therapy Association
Arc	The Arc – Advocating for individuals with developmental disabilities
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorders
ASHA	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
ASL	American Sign Language
AT	Assistive Technology
AUCD	Association of University Centers on Disabilities (formerly American Association of University Affiliated Programs)
BD	Behavioral Disorder
CAPD	Central Auditory Processing Disorder
CEC	Council for Exceptional Children
CHAMPUS	see TRICARE
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (DHHS)
CPS	Child Protective Services
CSHCN	Children with Special Health Care Needs
CSPD	Comprehensive System of Personnel Development

D and E

DAP	Developmentally appropriate practice
DD	Developmental disabilities
DEC	Division of Early Childhood (of the CEC)
DHHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
DMAS	Department of Medical Assistance Services
DBHDS	Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
DOE	Department of Education
EC	Early childhood
ECSE	Early childhood special education
EDGAR	Education Department General Administrative Regulations
EI	Early intervention
EIP	Early Intervention Program
EPSDT	Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (Medicaid program under 21 years old)
ERIC	Educational Resources Information Center

F, G, H, and I

FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
HHS	U.S. Department of Human Services
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HMO	Health maintenance organization
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP	Individualized Education Program
IFSP	Individual Family Service Plan
IHE	Institution of Higher Education

L, M, N and O

LD	Learning disability
LEA	Local Education Agency
LICC	Local Interagency Coordinating Council
LRE	Least Restrictive environment
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MCHB	Maternal and Child Health Bureau (DHHS)
MIMS	Monitoring Improvement Measurement System
ID	Intellectual Disability
NECTAC	National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center
NICHCY	National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIH	National Institute of Health (DHHS)
NORD	National Organization of Rare Disorders
OMB	U.S. Office of Management and Budget
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs (in OSERS)
OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (ED)
OT	Occupational Therapy

P, Q, and R,

PDD	Pervasive developmental disorder
PEATC	Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center
PICU	Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
PT	Physical therapy
QIC	Quality Improvement Center (Head Start)
RFP	Request for proposals

S, T, U V and W

SI	Sensory Integration
SIP	State Improvement Plan
SLP	Speech-language pathologist
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TA	Technical assistance
TANF	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (DHHS)
TDD/TTY	Telecommunication Device for the Deaf/Teletype
TRICARE	Military Health Care System (formerly CHAMPUS)
T/TA	Training and Technical Assistance
UCP	United Cerebral Palsy
VDBVI	Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired
VDDHH	Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
VICC	Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council
VOPA	Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy
WIC	Women, Infants and Children (Special Supplemental Food Program)

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Terms and acronyms commonly used by the professionals who work with your family can often be confusing. Your service coordinator can explain any terms or acronyms that are unclear.