

COMMONLY USED TERMS IN EDUCATION

ACRONYM	TERM	DEFINITION	PRIMARILY PERTAINS TO
504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act	A plan developed to help students with certain disabilities who may not qualify for or need special education services get the support they need to function on par with their age mates.	SWD
	Accommodation	Supports put in place to help SWD access the curriculum on par with their age mates	SWD
ACT	American College Testing	A standardized test that is made up of four sections: English, math, science, and reading (with an optional 5th writing section) that assesses college readiness.	All students
AP	Advanced Placement	College level courses offered at the high school level. These are weighed on a 5-point GPA scale.	All students
BIP; BMP	Behavior Intervention Plan; Behavior Management Plan	A plan designed to address, provide interventions and support for and correct problem behaviors.	SWD/All students
BOE	Board of Education	The local school governing organization	All students
CMA	Content Mastery Assessment	A standards-based test given three times per year to determine how well students are mastering the curricula.	All students
ESOL	English as Second or Other Language	A program that provides additional support for any student who speaks a language other than English as a primary language.	Non-native speakers
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education under Section 504	A federal law that grants all children a free public school education.	SWD
FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment	A process to collect and study data to better understand what may be prompting negative behaviors and to understand why the behaviors occur.	SWD
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	A Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.	All students
GE	General Education	The standard curriculum all students follow.	All students
GPA	Grade Point Average	A system used in high schools and universities to measure a student's performance and academic achievement. GPA is calculated by converting grades or percentages you to corresponding point on the GPA scale.	All students
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	A law that mandates a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities and ensures special education and related services to those children.	SWD
IEP	Individualized Education Program	A legal document created in collaboration with parents, teachers and other stakeholders to provide academic and/or behavioral support for SWD. IEPs must be reviewed annually.	SWD
	Intervention	A set of steps to target an academic or behavior need. These are progressed monitored for a set period of time.	All students
	i-Ready	An online program for reading and/or mathematics that help teachers determine student's needs, personalize their learning, and monitor progress throughout the school year.	All students
MTSS	Multi-tiered Systems of Support	A framework many schools use to provide targeted support to struggling students. The goal of MTSS is to intervene early so students can catch up with their peers.	All students
PSAT/SA T	(Preliminary) Scholastic Aptitude Test	A standardized test that is made up of four sections: Evidence-Based Reading, Writing and Language, Math (no calculator), and Math (calculator allowed) used to assess students college readiness.	All students
PTO	Parent-Teacher Organization	A collaboration between parents, teachers and other stakeholders designed to improve a school's academic progress and school climate and culture.	All students
RtI	Response to Intervention	Interventions (support steps) put in place and monitored over a set period of time to help students improve academically and/or behaviorally	All students
SEL	Social Emotional Learning	Lessons designed to help students learn to deal with emotions and have positive social interactions.	All students
SPED	Special Education	A range of services that help kids with disabilities learn.	SWD
SWD	Students with Disabilities	Any student with a qualifying disability that receives support services.	SWD