**SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY**

Specific Learning Disability is a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell or do mathematical calculations. The term includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia. The term does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing or motor disabilities; of intellectual disability; of emotional disturbance; or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage.

**Specific Learning Disability Resources:**
- Bright Hub Education - http://www.brighthubeducation.com/
- Center for Parent Information and Resources – www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/ld/
- Center on Instruction – www.centronstruction.org
- LD Online – www.ldonline.org
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/ specific-learning-disabilities/

**TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY**

Traumatic brain injury is an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child’s educational performance. The term applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one or more areas, such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory, perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. The term does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.

**Traumatic Brain Injury Resources:**
- Brainline - http://www.brainline.org
- National Association of Special Education Teachers – https://www.naserte.org/trauomaticbraininj2.0.html

**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT**

Speech or language impairment includes communication disorders such as stuttering, impaired articulation, a language impairment or a voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

**Speech and Language Impairment Resources:**
- Center for Parent Information and Resources – http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/speechlanguage/
- Cleft Palate Foundation – http://www.cleftline.org/
- Oklahoma ABLE Tech – https://www.ok.gov/abletech/
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/speech-language-impairments/
- The Stuttering Foundation – http://www.stutteringhelp.org/

**VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS INCLUDING BLINDNESS**

Visual impairments including blindness are impairments in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child’s educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness.

**Visual Impairments Including Blindness Resources:**
- American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults – https://actionfund.org
- Liberty Braille – libertybraille.com
- New View Oklahoma – www.newviewoklahoma.org
- Oklahoma ABLE Tech – https://www.ok.gov/abletech/
- Oklahoma School for the Blind – osb.k12.ok.us
- Perkins School for the Blind – www.perkins.org
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/visual-impairments/

**CATEGORIES OF DISABILITY**

**Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act guarantees that eligible children with disabilities receive free appropriate public education, along with special education and related services to children with disabilities and helps them do so.

IDEA also defines “child with a disability” and specific disability terms. You will see these definitions on the following pages. For more information about IDEA, visit https://sites.ed.gov/idea/
DEAF-BLINDNESS

Deaf-blindness involves simultaneous hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and developmental needs that students cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or children with blindness.

Deaf-Blind Resources:
- Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults – https://www.helenkeller.org/hkc
- I Can Connect – www.icancconnect.org
- National Center on Deaf-Blindness – https://ncdb.org
- Oklahoma Deaf-Blind Technical Assistance Project – www.casu.edu/content/education/edpd/special-education/deaf-blind-project.html
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/deaf-blindness/

DEAFNESS

Deafness is a hearing impairment so severe that a child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without aid, that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

Deafness Resources:
- American Society for Deaf Children – www.deafchildren.org
- The Deaf Resource Library – www.deaflibrary.org
- Liberty Braille – www.libertybraille.com
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders – https://www.nidcd.nih.gov
- Oklahoma AIBLE Tech – https://www.ok.gov/abletech
- Oklahoma Association of the Deaf – www.ok-oad.org
- Oklahoma School for the Deaf – www.okd12.ok.us

DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY

For children from birth to age 3 (under IDEA Part C) and children that are 3 through 9 (under IDEA Part B), the term developmental delay, as defined by each state, means a delay in one or more of the following areas: physical development, cognitive development; communication; social or emotional development; or adaptive (behavioral) development.

Developmental Delay Resources:
- National Developmental Delay Resources – www.develdelay.org
- National Association for the Education of Young Children – http://nayec.org
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/non-categorical-developmental-delay/
- what-you-need-to-know-about-developmental-delays

EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE

Emotional disturbance is a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child’s educational performance:
(a) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory or health factors.
(b) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers.
(c) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances.
(d) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

The term includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they have emotional disturbances.

Emotional Disturbance Resources:
- Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders – www.ccbod.net
- INTEGRIS Mental Health Oklahoma – www.integrisok.com/mental-health-oklahoma-ok
- Mental Health Services of Southern Oklahoma – www.mhsoo.org
- National Alliance on Mental Illness – www.nami.org
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services – www.ok.gov/odmsas
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/emotional-disturbance/

HEARING IMPAIRMENT

Hearing impairment is an impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance but is not included under the definition of deafness.

Hearing Impairment Resources:
- Liberty Braille – libertybraille.com
- Oklahoma AIBLE Tech – https://www.ok.gov/abletech
- Oklahoma School for the Deaf – www.okd12.ok.us
- Oklahoma Association of the Deaf – ok-oad.org
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/hearing-impairments/

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

Intellectual disability is significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period, that adversely affects a child’s educational performance.

Intellectual Disability Resources:
- Center for Parent Information & Resources – www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/intellectual/
- Down Syndrome Association of Oklahoma – dsasco.org
- National Down Syndrome Congress – www.ndscenter.org
- Oklahoma Special Olympics – www.sook.org
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org

MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

Multiple disabilities are simultaneous impairments (such as intellectual disability-blindness, intellectual disability-orthopedic impairment, etc.), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in a special education program solely for one of the impairments. The term does not include deaf-blindness.

Multiple Disabilities Resources:
- Center for Parent Information and Resources – www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/multiple/
- Perkins Scout - www.perkineslearns.org/scout/multiple-disabilities-educational-resources
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/multiple-disabilities/
- TASH – http://tash.org

OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENT

Other Health Impairment involves having limited strength, vitality or alertness, or a heightened alertness or sensitivity to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment and meets two criteria:
(a) It is due to chronic or acute health problems such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette syndrome.
(b) It adversely affects a child's educational performance.

Other Health Impairment Resources:
- CHADD – www.chadd.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/default.htm
- Epilepsy Foundation – www.epilepsy.com

ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT

Orthopedic impairment is a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child’s educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis) and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns that cause contractures).

Orthopedic Impairment Resources:
- Cerebral Palsy Guidance – https://www.cerebralpalysguidance.com
- National Association of Special Education Teachers – https://www.naset.org/orthopedicimpairment2.0.html
- Project IDEAL – http://www.projectidealonline.org/v/orthopedic-impairment/
- United Cerebral Palsy – http://ucp.org/

OTHER CATEGORIES OF DISABILITY

This includes children with emotional disturbance, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, visual impairment, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, speech and language impairment, traumatic brain injury, autism, severe emotional disturbance, specific learning disabilities, specific speech and language impairment, traumatic brain injury, multiple disabilities, and other health impairment.