

Glossary of Educational Terms

The education system often shortens many terms that are used in school meetings and documents. To help families navigate this system, we've compiled a list of the most common and relevant terms you might encounter, especially if your child has hearing loss.

Education terms in alphabetical order

AAC – Alternative Augmentative Communication

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

ALD – Assistive Listening Device

ASL – American Sign Language

AVT – Auditory Verbal Therapy

BIP – Behavior Intervention Plan

CC – Closed Captioning

DESE – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

DHH – Deaf/Hard of Hearing

EEC – Department of Early Education and Care

EI – Early Intervention

ESL – English as a Second Language

ELL – English Language Learner

ESY – Extended School Year

FAPE – Free and Appropriate Public Education

FBA – Functional Behavioral Assessment

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FLE – Functional Listening Evaluation

IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

HAT – Hearing Assistive Technology

HoH – Hard of Hearing

IEE – Individualized Educational Evaluation

IEP – Individualized Education Program/Plan

IFSP – Individualized Family Service Plan

LRE – Least Restrictive Environment

LSL – Listening and Spoken Language

MCDHH – Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

O & M – Orientation and Mobility

OT – Occupational Therapy

PLEP – Present Levels of Educational Performance

PT – Physical Therapy

RM – Remote Microphone

SEE II – Signing Exact English

SLP – Speech Language Pathologist

SPED – Special Education

TC – Total Communication

TOD/TODHH – Teacher of the Deaf/ Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing