

Special Education

What is "Special Education"?

"Special education" is an overarching term used to refer to educational programs provided for individual students who, for a variety of reasons, are not having all of their educational needs met by the predominant instructional program in an academic institution. Students taking advantage of special education programs may exhibit physical disabilities, learning disabilities, sensory impairments, or behavioral or emotional disorders. Students who exhibit a particular talent, or who have been identified as academically or artistically gifted, may also benefit from special educational services, although the provision of such services is not equally mandated by law. Terms such as "exceptionality" are commonly used to refer both to educational programs for students with disabilities and to special services for the gifted and talented.

Finding Books

Griffin (WWW)

Use Griffin, the WSU Libraries' online catalog to locate books and other materials relevant to the study of special education. You may search Griffin by author, title, or subject. Among the subject headings that may help you locate books at WSU are the following:

Behavior Disorders in Children
Deaf - Education
Educational Acceleration
Gifted Children - Education
Individualized Instruction
Mainstreaming in Education
Special Education

Blind - Education
Developmentally Disabled Children
Exceptional Children
Inclusive Education
Learning Disabilities
Mentally Handicapped Children
Special Education - Language Arts

You may also locate relevant information by using the name of particular conditions as a subject heading, for example:

Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
Brain Damage

Autism
Dyslexia

Finding Articles

ERIC (1966-) (WWW)

This database is available online through the WSU Libraries home page. The Educational Resources Information Center produces this index to over 750 scholarly journals in the field of education. Also included is an index to thousands of "education documents," unpublished materials of all types that have been archived by ERIC and made available through the ERIC microfiche collection (including conference papers, speeches, government reports, etc.). The ERIC microfiche collection is available in the Brain Education Library.

Education Abstracts (1983-) (WWW) (Z5813 .E23)

This database is available online through the WSU Libraries home page. Over 350 educational publications are indexed in this database, including periodicals, yearbooks, and monographs. The print counterpart to this database, *Education Index* (1929-), is available in Brain Education Library Reference.

Exceptional Child Education Resources (1978-) (LC3965 .E92x)

This print index is available in Brain Education Library Reference. Over 200 periodicals from North America and the United Kingdom is produced by the Council for Exceptional Children and provides access to a wide variety of topics in special education and gifted education. There is no electronic counterpart to this index currently available through the WSU Libraries.

Selected Reference Books (All titles listed are held in the Brain Education Library)

Mary Buchanan, et al., eds., *Special Education Desk Reference* (LC3981 .E45 1997)

Kurt A. Heller, et al., eds., *International Handbook of Research and Development of Giftedness and Talent* (LC3993 .I596 1993)

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U. S. Department of Education, A Guide to the Individualized Education Program <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP/IEP_Guide/>

Cecil R. Reynolds and Elaine Fletcher-Janzen, eds., *Encyclopedia of Special Education*, 2nd ed. (3 vols.) (LC4007 .E53 2000) (on order) [earlier edition available]

Glenn A. Vergason & M. L. Anderegg, *Dictionary of Special Education and Rehabilitation*, 4th ed. (LC3957 .V47 1997)

Margaret C. Wang, et al., eds., *Handbook of Special and Remedial Education: Research and Practice*, 2nd ed. (LC3965 .H263 1995) (on order)

Educational Law (All titles listed are held in the Brain Education Library)

Laura F. Rothstein, *Special Education Law*, 3rd ed. (KF4210 .R68 2000)

H. Rutherford Turnbull, et al., *Free Appropriate Public Education: The Law and Children with Disabilities*, 6th ed. (KF4210 .T87 2000) (on order)

There are a variety of Web sites that provide information on educational law in this area, including:

Cornell University's Legal Information Institute: Disability Law
<<http://www.secure.law.cornell.edu/topics/disability.html>>

Council for Exceptional Children: Legislative Updates <<http://www.cec.sped.org/index.html>>

The ERIC Clearinghouse for Disabilities and Gifted Education: Links to the Laws <<http://ericec.org/lawlink.htm>>

Selected Journals (All titles listed are held in the Brain Education Library)

Exceptional Children (LC3951 .J6)

The Gifted Child Quarterly (LC3991 .G5)

Journal of Learning Disabilities (LC4001 .J6)

Journal of Special Education (LC4001 .J65)

Teacher Education and Special Education (LC3969 .T43)

Teaching Exceptional Children (LC3950 .T4)

Web Sites

- Children With Disabilities <<http://www.childrenwithdisabilities.ncjrs.org/>>
- ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education <<http://ericec.org/>>
- LD Online: Learning Disabilities Information and Resources <<http://www.ldonline.org/>>
- Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction - Special Education <<http://www.k12.wa.us/specialed/>>
- United States Department of Education - Office of Special Education Programs
<<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP/index.html>>

This guide is available online at <<http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/educ/guide/guides/specialed.htm>>.