

New Jersey Inclusion Resources For Families

The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

The following organizations can provide information and training about inclusion: legal requirements, developing an IEP for inclusion and advocacy strategies to secure inclusive services for your child.

The organizations with an *asterisk beside them also have limited resources to support parents at IEP meetings regarding inclusion. On the inside is your step by step guide to getting your child services in the Least Restrictive Environment.

The Arc of New Jersey*

985 Livingston Avenue
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
(732) 246-2525
www.arcnj.org

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

35 Halsey Street, 4th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 642-8100
(800) 654-SPAN
www.spannj.org

Advancing Opportunities/ Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey

1005 Whitehead Road Extension, Suite 1
Ewing, NJ 08638
Toll Free: 888-322-1918
www.cpfnj.org

UCP (United Cerebral Palsy) of Northern, Central & Southern NJ

245 Main Street, Suite 113
Chester, NJ 07930
Phone: (908) 879-2243
www.ucpnscnj.org

Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey

1 AAA Drive, Suite 203
Trenton, NJ 08691
(800) 336-5843
www.efnj.co

Spina Bifida Resource Network*

84 Park Avenue Suite G-106
Flemington, NJ 08822-1173
(908) 782-7475
www.thesprn.org

Family Support Center of NJ

1 AAA Drive, Suite 203
Trenton, NJ 08691
Phone: (800) 336-5843
www.fscnj.org

New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education*

9 Auer Court, Suite H
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-5847
732-613-0400
www.njcie.net

The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities/ UMDNJ

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School
335 George Street, PO Box 2688
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-2688
(732) 235-9300
www.rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter

The Association for Special Children and Families of New Jersey*

PO Box 494
Hewitt, NJ 07421
(973) 728-8744
www.ascfamily.org

Brain Injury Association of NJ

825 Georges Road, 2nd Floor
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
(732) 745-0200
www.bianj.org

(Resources continued on back cover)

LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT: STEP BY STEP

STEP 1: Have my child's educational goals and objectives been developed prior to the placement recommendation? Are the goals clearly stated and are the objectives measurable?

If Yes

proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

Inform team members of this and state that it is unacceptable, and that you expect clear and measurable goals and objectives for your child before any decision of placement.

STEP 2: Have my child's educational needs (as expressed in the evaluation) been accurately addressed by the proposed educational goals and objectives?

If Yes

proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

Clarify educational needs and goals. Inform team members that these must be determined before a specific placement is considered.

STEP 3: Have the special education, related services and assistive technology devices or services my child needs been determined prior to the placement decisions?

If Yes

proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

Identify the special education, related services and assistive technology devices or services your child needs. Make sure there is a "direct relationship between the present levels of educational performance... and the specific education and related services to be provided."

STEP 4: Has the general education class with appropriate supports been examined as the first possible placement option? Has it been examined, not as it currently exists, but as it might be modified?

if YES

proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

According to the state's LRE policy "Each placement option is examined not only as it currently exists, but as it might be modified. Inclusion in a general education classroom with supports must be examined as the first option..."

STEP 5: Have ALL possible services and supports been considered to meet the individual needs of my child in the general education classroom?

if YES

inclusion in the general education class must be available as an option, proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

Look at all aids and services that exist that can provide support. In-district resources are not the only resources to be considered. Plan for your child to be included in the general education class with whatever supports the team can envision to enable the student to succeed.

STEP 6: In comparison to a special class, have the benefits of inclusion in the general education class with supports been examined? What benefits are there to my child with a disability? What benefits are there to the non-disabled children?

if YES

inclusion in the general education class must be available as an option, proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

The child with the disability does not have to learn what the other children are learning. Interaction with general education peers is a legitimate benefit.

STEP 7: Unless there is a clear cut reason why my child's needs cannot be met, my child should be included in the general education class with supports. Are the supports being provided? Are there opportunities for interactions with children without disabilities?

if YES

Continue to monitor the program for increased opportunities to promote success and help increase interaction.

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA

Examination of all areas of the daily school environment should be made to identify opportunities for academic and nonacademic interactions, and written into the IEP.

THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS CAN PROVIDE FREE LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN CERTAIN CASES TO SECURE INCLUSIVE SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILD.

Community Health Law Project
Administrative Offices (contact for local offices)
185 Valley Street
South Orange, NJ 07079
(973) 275-1175
www.chlp.org
Disability Rights New Jersey*
210 South Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608
(609) 292-9742 or (800) 922-7233 in NJ Only
www.drnj.org

Education Law Center
60 Park Place, Suite 300
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 624-1815
www.edlawcenter.org

Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia
United Way Building
1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 627-7100
www.pilcop.org

THE FOLLOWING STATE AGENCIES CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION AND TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS ABOUT INCLUSION.

EARLY INTERVENTION (BIRTH TO 3):

Family Link Early Intervention Collaborative
2333 Morris Avenue, Suite A20
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 964-5303
(Essex, Morris, Sussex, Union, Warren)
www.njeis.org/familylink

Mid-Jersey CARES REIC
Central New Jersey Maternal &
Child Health Consortium
2 King Arthur Court, Suite B
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
800-206-6988 or 732-937-5437
www.cnjmchc.org
(Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth,
Ocean, Somerset)

Helpful Hands REIC
65 Willowbrook Boulevard, 6th Floor
Wayne, NJ 07470
(973) 256-8484
(Bergen, Hudson, Passaic)
www.nreic.org

Southern Regional Early
Intervention Collaborative
Winslow Professional Center
339 South Route 73, Suite 6
Berlin, NJ 08009
(856) 768-6747
www.snjreic.org
(Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May,
Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem)

New Jersey Department Of Education
Learning Resource Centers
(Preschool through High School)
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/lrc/genfo.htm>

Learning Resource Center North
7 Glenwood Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 201
East Orange, NJ 07018
(973) 414-4491

Learning Resource Center Central
200 Riverview Plaza
1st Floor
Trenton, NJ
609-633-8893

Learning Resource Center North Satellite
322 American Road
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
(973) 631-6345

Learning Resource Center – South at EIRC
South Jersey Technology Park,
Samuel H. Jones Innovation Center — Suite 200,
107 Gilbreth Parkway
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
(856) 582-7000

CHILD CARE: For help in finding and paying for quality child care, call the New Jersey Child Care Helpline at 1-800-332-9227 or contact your county's Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Agency. See this link for a list of county contacts: <http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dfd/programs/child/ccrr/index.html>