

## **Glossary of Terms**

Accommodation: A change in curriculum or instruction that does not substantially modify the requirements of the class or alter the content standards or benchmarks.

Extended School Year (ESY): A provision for a special education student to receive instruction during ordinary school vacation periods.

Due Process In general, a course of legal proceedings according to rules and principles established for enforcement and protection of private rights. Essential components of due process are "notice" and "a meaningful opportunity to be heard."

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): A federal law that regulates the management of student records and disclosure of information from those records. with its own administrative enforcement mechanism.

Stay Put: The ruling that permits a student to remain in their current placement during any dispute concerning special education services.

Placement: The unique combination of facilities, personnel, location or equipment necessary to provide instructional services to meet the goals as specified in the student's IEP. placement is a set of services, not a location.

Mainstreaming: This lay term doesn't appear in law. It refers to IDEA's preference for the education of every child in the least restrictive environment (LRE); most widely refers to placement of students with disabilities in general education, rather than segregated, classrooms.

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE): A federal mandate stipulating that, to the maximum extent possible, students with disabilities be educated with their non-disabled peers.

Inclusion: A belief that every student is entitled to an instructional program that meets his or her individual needs and learning characteristics; a commitment to build and maintain an assured sense of belonging for all students, regardless of strengths or challenges.

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