

Online Resources

Visit go.solution-tree.com/specialneeds for links to the websites listed in this appendix.

Assessment, Accountability, Data, and Outcomes

Assessment and Accountability Comprehensive Center (AACC)

www.aacompcenter.org

The primary aim of the Assessment and Accountability Comprehensive Center is to assist states and districts in their understanding and use of assessment and accountability systems that benefit all students, including students with disabilities. The Center provides multiple resources on the development and implementation of data-driven systems that can be used to inform instruction and monitor student learning and progress in the curriculum.

Data Accountability Center (DAC)

www.ideadata.org/default.asp

The Data Accountability Center provides technical assistance to states to help build their capacity in meeting IDEA's requirements for data collection and reporting. The Center's website not only has online training modules on data collection and submission but also includes data about children and youth with disabilities served under Parts B and C of IDEA.

Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center

www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/index.cfm

The Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center, funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), is charged with providing states with assistance in implementing high-quality outcome measurement systems for early intervention and early childhood special education programs. The Center's work focuses on (1) developing an outcomes measurement framework for states to implement, (2) technical assistance to support the early childhood community, and (3) analysis of state-level child outcome and family indicator data to inform policies and programs. Up-to-date information and resources are provided through their website.

Behavior Interventions and Supports

Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice: Schools and Special Education

http://cecp.air.org/schools_special.asp

This website, which focuses on improving services for children and youth with emotional and behavioral problems, includes a variety of resources on addressing problem behaviors. Reports available for download range from instructional materials on how to conduct a functional assessment or create a behavior intervention plan to information on promising practices and preventing school failure. There is also detailed information on conducting functional behavioral assessments and developing behavior intervention plans.

Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

www.pbis.org

The Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is funded by OSEP and brings together eleven technical assistance units across the United States to

increase the implementation of positive behavior management systems in schools. The Center's website provides tools, videos, presentations, publications, and training materials on PBIS and its implementation in the school. The Center has also created a resource search guide to facilitate easy retrieval of information specific to individual interests and needs. Districts and schools in need of technical assistance can use the Center's PBIS state coordinator network to locate regional and state coordinators for support on the development and implementation of PBIS.

Disability Organizations

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

www.cec.sped.org

The Council for Exceptional Children website includes a wealth of information on all aspects of special education, including policy reports, professional development information, and the latest news and issues affecting everyone involved in the education of students with disabilities or who are gifted. This site offers an RTI blog, a bookstore, and current information on evidence-based practice and instructional strategies.

IDEA Partnership

www.ideapartnership.org

The IDEA Partnership facilitates interaction and shared work across professional and family organizations around common interests. The website provides a wealth of information ranging from response to intervention, secondary transition, and users' guides on research-based instruction to topical issues on IDEA 2004 regulations and statutes. The partnership fosters communities of practice and dialogue to solve problems and improve learning for all students.

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities (NICHCY)

http://nichcy.org

NICHCY is a central source of information on disabilities in infants, toddlers, children, and youth. The NICHCY website provides information ranging from the law, regulations, and specific implementation guidance to detailed information and resources for each of the disability types. The site also includes easy-to-read information on IDEA 2004, articles on a variety of educational topics, and lists of state resources to help connect professionals with the disability agencies and organizations in their states.

Dispute Resolution

National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE)

www.directionservice.org/cadre

The primary mission of the National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) is to decrease the need for expensive due process hearings by improving state, district, and school capacities in resolving special education disputes. The Center has created a user-friendly continuum of processes and practices on responding to and resolving special education disputes that is fully searchable and defines the timelines and requirements for each step of the process. Additional resources on dispute resolution can be located in their searchable literature database. The Center's website also includes a section devoted to families which includes numerous downloadable resources designed to increase understanding of IDEA requirements.

Instruction, Strategies, and Interventions

Co-Teaching Connection

www.marilynfriend.com

This website provides resources for administrators and teachers on the implementation of effective co-teaching strategies. Lesson plans and resource documents are available.

Center on Instruction (COI)

www.centeroninstruction.org

The Center on Instruction, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, provides information on research-based interventions and instructional strategies to support high-quality instruction for all students. The website contains numerous free resources, including practitioner guides, professional development materials, examples from the field, and syntheses of recent research to assist states, districts, and local educators as they work to improve the learning outcomes for all students.

Intervention Central

www.interventioncentral.org

Intervention Central offers free tools and resources to help school and district staff and parents implement response to intervention strategies and promote positive classroom behaviors. The website includes both academic and behavioral research-based interventions and information on curriculum-based measurement, including manuals and forms to support implementation in the classroom and school. Intervention Central also provides a variety of customizable workshops to schools and districts on implementation of response to intervention.

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc>

Established in 2002 by the U.S. Department of Education, the mission of the What Works Clearinghouse is to serve as a central source of research-based interventions and strategies proven to be effective in education. WWC uses a comprehensive review process for evaluating interventions, strategies, and tools prior to including them in the clearinghouse. WWC has created multiple ways for users to search the database and find information.

Parent Support

ALLIANCE National Parent Technical Assistance Center

www.parentcenternetwork.org/national/aboutus.html

The charge of the ALLIANCE National Parent Technical Assistance Center is to provide support to parent centers, parent training and information centers, and community parent resource centers throughout the United States. The Center provides technical assistance and develops fact sheets and a newsletter on key issues. Users can also access their regional parent technical assistance centers and local parent centers through the ALLIANCE National website.

education.com: Special Needs

www.education.com/topic/special-needs

Parents are the primary target audience of this website. Education.com is designed to empower parents by providing resources ranging from educational activities and project ideas to do at home to articles about challenges faced in parenthood. The website includes an open-ended question area for parents to solicit free expert advice as well as communicate with other parents. Education.com provides resources to support parents of both general education and special

education students, and resources are searchable by topic, disability type, age, grade, or academic service.

Family Center on Technology and Disability (FCTD)

www.fctd.info

The primary focus of the Family Center on Technology and Disability is to provide information and resources about assistive technologies (AT) that can be used to support students with disabilities at home, in their communities, and in their schools. The FCTD website houses two searchable databases: a resource review database which includes hundreds of different types of AT devices and instructional technology resources, and a member organization database which allows users to search for organizations within their state or region that address their areas of interest. The Center also prepares and disseminates monthly newsletters on AT, hosts online discussions, provides fact sheets and family guides for download, and provides an AT glossary.

Policy and Legislation

Building the Legacy: IDEA 2004

http://idea.ed.gov

The purpose of the Building the Legacy: IDEA 2004 website is to increase capacity in understanding and interpreting IDEA's statutes and associated regulations. The website was developed by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and the Office of Special Education Programs in the U.S. Department of Education and provides a wealth of information about key IDEA topics, provisions, and requirements. Examples of resources available include topic briefs, training materials, webcasts and presentations, and Q & A documents on each key topic in IDEA as well as IDEA's statutes and regulations.

Council of Educators for Students With Disabilities: Resources

www.504idea.org/Council_Of_Educators/Resources.html

This organization hosts conferences on Section 504 and key IDEA topics and offers customized professional development workshops that are designed to meet the unique needs of the school, district, or state. Written materials developed for conference presentations and customized workshops are available for download through the website.

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities: IDEA—The Individuals With Disabilities Education Act

http://nichcy.org/laws/idea

NICHCY's charge is to nationally disseminate information about types of disabilities, programs and services for children and youth with disabilities, IDEA, and best practice research-based interventions and strategies. Included on the website is a section about IDEA which includes: (1) brief summaries of key IDEA topics, (2) the IDEA statutes and regulations, (3) guidance on IDEA from the U.S. Department of Education, and (4) training materials on the provisions and requirements of IDEA.

U.S. Department of Education

www.ed.gov

This website includes information about the law, IDEAs that Work, and recent research and resources on a variety of education topics, including those related to special education. Also see the Department of Education's web page at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/states/index.html> for information on No Child Left Behind legislation and policies.

U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html

The Office of Special Education Programs is the federal agency within the U.S. Department of Education responsible for implementation and oversight of the IDEA legislation and regulations within the states. OSEP funds grants and contracts involving model demonstration programs, teacher education, technical assistance, and dissemination of research-based information. A number of topical products for parents, teachers, and administrators are available on this website.

Qualified Personnel

Council for Exceptional Children: Professional Development

www.cec.sped.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Professional_Development

The professional development (PD) page on CEC's website provides information about the CEC Professional Development Services Team. This team of individuals is responsible for providing professional training workshops for teachers and administrators educating students with disabilities. Specialized workshops include life centered career education (LCCE) training and NCATE/CEC accreditation review preparation assistance. Workshops can also be customized to meet the unique needs of a school or district. In addition to PD workshops, CEC offers interactive webinars and the CEC Learning Center, which allows users to download sessions from the CEC annual convention.

Learning Forward

www.learningforward.org

Learning Forward is dedicated to enhancing professional development opportunities for educators to improve the learning outcomes of all students. Learning Forward has developed standards for professional learning which define the key characteristics essential to professional development to enhance teaching practice, build leadership, and impact student achievement. Learning Forward provides their membership with online activities such as webinars, e-communities, and a blog as well as a newsletter, annual conference, summer conference, and a two-and-a-half year intensive learning academy. The Learning Forward Center for Results provides intensive consulting services for individuals who are working to develop and implement new teacher effectiveness evaluation systems.

National Center to Improve the Recruitment and Retention of Qualified Personnel for Children With Disabilities (Personnel Improvement Center)

www.personnelcenter.org

The National Center to Improve the Recruitment and Retention of Qualified Personnel for Children With Disabilities (Personnel Improvement Center) was founded on October 1, 2008, under a new cooperative agreement between the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). The primary mission of the Center is to assist states in implementing effective systems for recruiting, preparing, and retaining highly qualified special educators, early intervention and related services personnel, and paraeducators.

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities: What It Means to Be Highly Qualified

<http://nichcy.org/schools-administrators/hqt?>

This web page specifically addresses the requirements stated in NCLB and IDEA on being a highly qualified teacher. The web page provides a brief introduction to the requirements and compares the definitions stated in each of the two laws as well as some frequently asked questions and training materials on defining highly qualified personnel.

Regional Resource Center (RRC) Program

www.rrcprogram.org

The Regional Resource Center Program provides services to all states to improve academic outcomes for students with disabilities. Services provided through the RRC can include but are not limited to individual consultations, specially designed technical assistance, and training. There are six regional resource centers that work together and with other organizations to build a network of people committed to resolving similar challenges and issues.

Research Articles and Materials

Education Resources Information Center (ERIC)

www.eric.ed.gov

ERIC, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, supplies users with bibliographic records of education journals and other published education materials, including full-text articles and documents as available. Content on this site is provided free of charge.

Response to Intervention

National Center on Response to Intervention (NCRTI)

www.rti4success.org

The National Center on Response to Intervention, funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), assists states and districts as they work to learn about and implement RTI. This website provides a variety of resources on RTI, including charts, implementation tools, archived webinars, training modules, research syntheses, and short video clips of experts in the field addressing specific questions about RTI. The Center also conducts and publishes annual reviews of tools and interventions in progress monitoring, screening, and instructional programs.

RTI Action Network

www.rtinetwork.org

The RTI Action Network website assists school- and district-level personnel in implementation of response to intervention. The primary aim of the RTI Action Network is to facilitate and encourage the early identification of students at risk for academic failure and effective implementation of instructional interventions that address the needs of these students.

School Improvement

Equity Alliance at ASU

www.equityallianceatasu.org

The Equity Alliance at ASU helps districts and schools through technical assistance activities that foster the development of culturally responsive schools. Equity Alliance is committed to creating inclusive schools that value all students.

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)

www.nasdse.org

This website provides resources to assist general and special educators in continuously improving educational services and outcomes for students with disabilities. NASDSE provides free downloads and options to purchase print copies of important step-by-step implementation guidelines, resources, and tips for such important initiatives as response to intervention at the school level,

the district level, and the state level. In addition to NASDSE's main website (www.nasdse.org), they sponsor the following: www.projectforum.org, www.ideapartnership.org, www.sharedwork.org, www.personnelcenter.org, and www.uscharterschools.org/specialprimers.

Support for Secondary Schools

National Dropout Prevention Center for Students With Disabilities (NDPC-SD)

www.ndpc-sd.org

The National Dropout Prevention Center for Students With Disabilities provides technical assistance to states with a goal of creating sustainable programs that result in a reduction of the dropout rate and increase the likelihood of school completion among students with disabilities.

National High School Center

www.betterhighschools.org

The National High School Center is devoted to improving education programs at the secondary level. The website includes links to topical briefs, a blog on high school issues, archived webinars, and a free Microsoft Excel-based program (the Early Warning System) designed to help identify students who show early warning signs that they are at risk for dropping out of high school.

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC)

www.nsttac.org

The National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center assists states in their understanding of the transition provisions of IDEA. The Center provides technical assistance to states by identifying and disseminating information on successful evidence-based practices that enhance the postsecondary outcomes for students with disabilities.