



# SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Successful Solutions Professional Development LLC

[WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SUPPORTING-FAMILIES](http://WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SUPPORTING-FAMILIES)

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**ECE Virtual Classroom**  
Online Courses for Early Childhood Educators



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## Supporting Families with Special Needs

### *3 clocks hour early childhood education*

#### Course Description

Child care centers will serve families of all sizes, make-ups, needs and concerns. Families with special needs often experience challenges when it comes to child care and are protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This topic will give directors and administrators more information on the Americans with Disabilities Act as well as how to create a program that strives to fit the needs of families with special needs. This includes realistic tools, regulations, and concepts to support families with special needs in your community and in your center.

**Washington STARS credit:** Family and Community Partnerships (3 hours)

**CDA Content Area:** Building Productive Relationships with Families (3 hours)

#### CDA Settings

- Infant/Toddler
- Preschool
- Family Child Care (Mixed-Age)

#### Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Define the following terms:
  - People First Vocabulary
  - Reasonable Modification
  - The Americans with Disabilities Act
  - Inclusion
  - Positive Interaction Strategies
- ✓ Analyze environmental accommodations in classrooms for children with disabilities
- ✓ Identify Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance and non-compliance examples
- ✓ Discuss factors that influence families when choosing a child care center
- ✓ Determine staff roles in meeting the needs of families with special needs
- ✓ Describe assistive technology and what its purpose is in the early childhood classroom
- ✓ Identify “people first” phrases from a given list

#### Course Content

1. Course Agenda
  - ✓ Pre-Assessment Quiz (1/5)
2. Families with Special Needs



3. ADA Accessibility
4. Provisions of the ADA
5. ADA Program Compliance Examples
6. Child Care Setting
7. Discussion: Early Childhood Setting (2/5)
8. Program Planning for Special Needs
9. Inclusion
10. Assistive Technology (3/5)
11. Benefits of Inclusion
12. People First Language
13. Environmental Accommodations
14. Accommodations (4/5)
15. Positive Interaction Strategies
16. Staff Preparation
17. More Alike than Different
18. End of Course Assessment (5/5)
19. Course Evaluation Form

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## Sources

- ✓ Childcare of Rockland Families with Special Needs. Retrieved from [http://childcarerockland.org/what\\_we\\_do/parents\\_families/families\\_with\\_special\\_needs.html](http://childcarerockland.org/what_we_do/parents_families/families_with_special_needs.html)
- ✓ Enhancing Play Experiences for Children with Special Needs by Mary Ann Farrell. Retrieved from <http://www.scchildcare.org/providers/become-an-abc-provider/articles/enhancing-play-experiences-for-children-with-special-needs.aspx#author>
- ✓ Person First Language by PACER. Retrieved from <http://www.pacer.org/parent/php/PHP-c31.pdf>
- ✓ Inclusive Childcare Program by Oregon Inclusion Program. Retrieved from <http://oregoninclusivecc.org/about-inclusion/>
- ✓ Welcoming ALL Children: Creating Inclusive Childcare by the Community Integration Committee of the First Steps Interagency Coordinating Council. Retrieved from <https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/ECC/WelcomingAllChildrenRevisedEdition2014.pdf>
- ✓ Teaching Students with Disabilities by Danielle Picard. Retrieved from <https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/disabilities/>
- ✓ NEURODIVERSITY in the Classroom: Strength-Based Strategies to Help Students with Special Needs Succeed in School and Life by Thomas Armstrong. Retrieved from [http://www.lilieonline.com/courses/Instructional\\_Needs\\_Neurodiverse/Neurodiversity-2.pdf](http://www.lilieonline.com/courses/Instructional_Needs_Neurodiverse/Neurodiversity-2.pdf)



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## Glossary of Terms

### ADA Accessibility

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. The ADA gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications. The ADA is divided into five titles (or sections) that relate to different areas of public life.

### Assistive Technology

IDEA defines assistive technology as follows: "any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of a child with a disability.

### Auxiliary Aids and Services

These are communication assistance programs, services, or devices and include a wide range of things from an interpreter to assistive technology.

### Behavior

The way in which one acts or conducts oneself, especially toward others.

### Confidentiality

Confidentiality is the protection of personal information. Confidentiality means keeping a client's information between you and the client, and not telling others including co-workers, friends, family, etc.

### Developmental Delays

Developmental Delay is when a child does not reach their developmental milestones at the expected times.

### Direct Threat

This is defined as a child's health condition posing a significant threat to the safety and wellbeing of the other children in care. Caregivers must determine this based on factual evidence and not assumptions or stereotypes. Some examples may be: a history of violence, or a communicable disease.



## **Fine Motor Skills**

Is the coordination of small muscles, in movements—usually involving the synchronization of hands and fingers—with the eyes. Fine motor skills let kids perform crucial tasks like reaching and grasping, moving objects and using tools like crayons, pencils and scissors.

## **Gross Motor**

Gross motor (physical) skills are those which require whole body movement, and which involve the large (core stabilizing) muscles of the body to perform everyday functions, such as standing and walking, running and jumping, and sitting upright at the table.

## **Hearing Loss**

Hearing loss is when the ability to hear is reduced. A hearing loss makes it more difficult for a child to hear speech and other sounds. Hearing loss is a common birth defect, affecting about 1 to 3 out of every 1,000 babies.

## **Inclusive Classroom**

An inclusive classroom is described as having three components, including access, participation, and supports. An inclusive early childhood classroom provides an environment in which all students, regardless of disabilities, can learn and develop together.

## **People First Language**

People-First Language emphasizes the person, not the disability. By placing the person first, the disability is no longer the primary, defining characteristic of an individual, but one of several aspects of the whole person.

## **Physical Disabilities**

A person with a physical disability is constrained by his physical ability to perform an activity independently such as walking, bathing, toileting, etc.

## **Reasonable Modifications**

This refers to changes that can be made to a program without too much expense or difficulty. These are unique to each program and can include simple things such as lowering hooks for jackets and backpacks.

## **Sensory Processing Disorder**

Sensory processing disorder (SPD, also known as sensory integration dysfunction) is a condition in which the sensory signals received by the central nervous system do not



become organized into an appropriate response. SPD, causes some children to find everyday stimuli excruciating.

## Speech

Speech is the verbal expression of language and includes articulation (the way sounds, and words are formed).

## Speech Delay

Refers to a delay in the development or use of the mechanisms that produce speech.

## Undue Burden

Changes or alterations to the program that would incur significant cost or difficulty.

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## Optional Resources for Further Study

- ✓ Learning Differences and Special Needs Guide by Common Sense Media, <https://www.common Sense Media.org/guide/special-needs>
- ✓ 7 Ways to Bring Out the Best in Special-Needs Students by Thomas Armstrong Education Week Teacher, [https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2013/04/08/fp\\_armstrong.html](https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2013/04/08/fp_armstrong.html)
- ✓ Understanding Kids who are Different: Activities for Teaching about disabilities by Education World, [https://www.educationworld.com/a\\_lesson/lesson115.shtml](https://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson115.shtml)
- ✓ Welcoming All Children: Creative Inclusive Child Care by the Community Integration Committee of the First Steps Inter-agency Coordinating Council, <https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/ECC/WelcomingAllChildrenRevisedEdition2014.pdf>
- ✓ Washington State Department of Health ADA Guidelines, <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/8340/970-106-ChildADA-en-L.pdf>
- ✓ Americans with Disabilities Act Title III Regulations, [https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII\\_2010/titleIII\\_2010\\_regulations.htm](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII_2010/titleIII_2010_regulations.htm)
- ✓ Americans with Disabilities Act Title II Regulations, [https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleII\\_2010/titleII\\_2010\\_regulations.htm](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleII_2010/titleII_2010_regulations.htm)
- ✓ Types of Educational Opportunities Discrimination, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/types-educational-opportunities-discrimination>
- ✓ Educational Opportunities Cases, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/educational-opportunities-cases#disab>
- ✓ Commonly Asked Questions about Childcare and the ADA, <https://www.ada.gov/childqanda.htm>



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## Course Author

*A special thank you to Aurora Tollestrup BS Ed. for developing the curriculum for this course.*

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## ECE Virtual Classroom Academic Coach

The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach's role is to support the ECE students through the training process. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach reviews assignment per directions, monitors discussion threads, answers inquiries/emails, monitors student engagement, provides online student support, and regularly collaborates with team members on development. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach serves as the facilitator and grader, while the Online Educators are the official state approved trainers.

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## Student Support

The best way to reach us is through live student support chat. Look for the Chat with Us bubble on the bottom left corner of the website.

Website: [www.myececlass-social.com](http://www.myececlass-social.com)

E-mail: [info@myececlass.com](mailto:info@myececlass.com)

Phone: (360) 602-0960

### Student Support Hours

#### Chat & Email Support

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
Saturday & Sunday	9 am – 6 pm
Holidays (Email Only)	10 am – 4 pm

#### Phone Support

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
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## Required Assignments

### Reading

The text on each page should be read. When you submit the worksheets, discussion boards, and click on the NEXT PAGE button, it will create a record of your progress moving through each page.

### Videos

Watch the videos as you encounter them. If you have trouble with the videos playing, this may require that you update flash player on your computer. Optionally, some students find that if they are having difficulties playing the videos on their computer, they can view them on their phone. There is a link above the videos to view them on YouTube directly. You may wish to save the Youtube link for the video to refer to in the future, or in order to use another device for viewing.

### Discussion

The discussion questions are a required part of the course. You may either post on the discussion board where you are contributing to the thread with other students. Alternately, you have the option of clicking on the link above the discussion board and submitting your response on a worksheet form. The ECE Virtual Classroom Coach will be tracking your submission of the discussion board assignments as part of meeting the learning outcomes for the course.

### Worksheets

Check for Understanding worksheets are provided throughout each course. The worksheets allow opportunities to reflect on the course materials as you are progressing through the training. Watch your email in-box for trainer feedback. You may not receive feedback for every single assignment, depending on how quickly you are moving through the course. Instead, you may receive an email letting you know that your work was done well, with a certificate attached. If you need guidance, the trainer or the academic coach will be sending you emails with feedback with instructions for resubmission. Certificates will not be issued if worksheets are skipped, incomplete, or filled in with inappropriate responses. If you need assistance, we have student support available via Live Student Support Chat 7 days a week (Mon.-Fri. 7 am-8 pm and Sat.-Sun. 9am-6pm PST).

### Quizzes

The end of course quizzes are primarily multiple choice and true or false questions, with occasional open-ended questions. 70% or better is required to pass the quiz. You can review the course materials and retake the quiz as many times as needed to pass. Automated emails are sent to you confirming that you have submitted the worksheets and quizzes and provide you with a link to resume at the next page.



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## Optional Course Items

The items below are offered in each course as options. Optional means that you have the choice to utilize them, or not.

### Optional Resources for Further Study

We have included a wealth of resource links for you to explore and further your knowledge about each topic.

*The resource links provided in our website are provided solely for your convenience and may assist you in locating other useful information on the Internet. When you click on these links you will leave our website and will be redirected to another website. These websites are not under the control of Successful Solutions Training in Child Development. Successful Solutions Training in Child Development is not responsible for the content of linked third party websites. We are not affiliated with these third parties nor do we endorse or guarantee their products, services, website content, etc. We make no representation or warranty regarding the accuracy of the information contained in the linked websites. We suggest that you always verify the information obtained from linked websites before acting upon this information.*

### Parking Lot

The Parking Lot is offered as an optional opportunity to interact with the trainer about a question that you may have about the course topic. If you do not have a question, it is not necessary to fill out this form, it is not required. If you choose to submit a question to the trainer, she will respond to you by email. Be sure to watch your email in-box.

You can always leave a message for student support on our Live Chat on the bottom left corner of the website, any time of day or night. If we are not available, we will respond by email as soon as possible.

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## Certificates

When you submit the evaluation form, that prompts the academic coach to review all of your work. We will evaluate your work to assure that you have met the learning outcomes. Once that assessment is complete, you will receive your certificate by email. [Click Here](#) for a sample certificate. (This certificate is an example. The student certificate may vary slightly). Certificates are prepared 7 days a week between 7 am and 7 pm PST. In most cases, you should receive your certificate by email within a few hours after you submit the evaluation form, or first thing the next morning.



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## State Training Approval

This training may, or may not, meet annual training requirements in your state. Please provide us with your state, and any State registry ID number on the evaluation form, and if we are able to record your completed training with your state, we will. In some cases, for annual state credit, you will need to submit the certificate to the appropriate registry and they may or may not award annual credit. Providing a State Registry number to us does not guarantee that your state will approve the training for annual continuing education credit.

The following states have *pre-approved* our courses:

- **Washington State DEL MERIT Trainers:**
  1. Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed #4062747253
  2. Brittney Andrade, BS ECE #4029466074
  
- **Ohio Approved Trainers:**
  1. Successful Solutions Professional Dev. - Entity OIN # 21084413
  2. Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed OPIN #1123-5033
  3. Brittney Andrade, BS ECE OPIN #1123-5512
  
- 1. Texas Approved Master Trainer: Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed #34928
- 2. Illinois Organization Approval Number B102312
- 3. North Carolina Organization Approval
- 4. Utah Organization Approval for Online Career Ladder Courses
- 5. Vermont Organization Approval

Our courses may be accepted many states that do not require pre-approval.

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## Technical Requirements

- Laptop or PC
- Most students are able to use mobile devices such as tablets to complete courses. However, each device is different, and an individual's skill level with the device may determine their success with using a mobile device.
- Recommended web browser: Google Chrome
  - Microsoft Edge, Safari and Firefox are other acceptable browsers.
  - Internet Explorer is no longer supported by Microsoft, and you may have issues if you use it to take training.



- Operating System
  - Make sure you're using a current operating system (for example, Windows 10).
  - Outdated operating systems may cause technical difficulties.
- Internet Speed
  - Slow internet speed may impact loading time.
- Videos may require Adobe Flash Player.

Adobe Reader is required to open PDF files. Download Adobe Reader can be downloaded free <https://acrobat.adobe.com/us/en/acrobat/pdf-reader.html>

