

Commonly Used Acronyms in Colorado School Nursing

Acronym	Represents...	Meaning/Function
BOCES	Board of Cooperative Educational Services	BOCES supply educational services to two or more school districts that alone cannot afford the service, or find it advantageous and cost-effective to cooperate with other districts. About BOCES Colorado BOCES Association
CASN	Colorado Association of School Nurses	Colorado's state school nurses' professional organization. Members of the state organization are also affiliate members of NASN. Colorado Association of School Nurses
CCHC	Child Care Health Consultant	Registered nurses and physicians who support health and safety in child care programs (and preschools). These consultants focus on inclusion of children with chronic medical conditions and special health care needs. Healthy Child Care Colorado
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	CDC is a component of the U.S. Department of Human Services aimed at protecting the nation from health, safety, and security threats. cdc.gov
CDE	Colorado Department of Education	State agency that provides leadership, resources, support and accountability to school districts, schools, teachers, administrators to meet the needs of students. cde.state.co.us
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment	Colorado's state health department is the principal department of the Colorado state government responsible for public health and environmental regulation. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CIIS	Colorado Immunization Information System	Colorado's confidential immunization record tracking system. CIIS
DRN	Diabetes Resource Nurse	Colorado Kids with Diabetes supports school nurses with diabetes related information and guidance to school nurses in Colorado. Colorado Diabetes Resource Nurses
ECEA	Exceptional Children's Education Act	Colorado's special education law - Governs the implementation of IDEA in Colorado. ECEA Rules
ESSA	Every Student Succeeds Act	The reauthorization of the federal "No Child Left Behind Act" – Currently focuses on preparing all students for success in college and career, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) CDE
ESS	Exceptional Student Services	May be used to describe special education and gifted and talented offices.
ESSU	Exceptional Student Services Unit	The unit within the Colorado Department of Education that includes the Office of Special Education, Office of Gifted Education, and Office of Facility Schools. Exceptional Student Services Unit CDE

Acronym	Represents...	Meaning/Function
FAPE	Free Appropriate Education	A provision of IDEA and Section 504 that requires public schools and schools that receive U.S. Department of Education funds to provide free appropriate public education to each qualified individual with a disability. Disability Discrimination: Providing a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) IDEA FAPE
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	Law that affords parents access to their child's educational records, right to seek to have records amended and the right to have some control over the disclosure of personally identifiable information from the educational records. Joint Guidance on the Application of HIPAA and FERPA to Student Health Records
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act	Provides security provisions and data privacy to keep patients' medical information safe. Joint Guidance on the Application of HIPAA and FERPA to Student Health Records
HCP/ IHP/ EAP	Health Care Plan, Individualized Healthcare Plan, Emergency Action Plan	Healthcare plans are written for students whose healthcare needs affect or have the potential to affect school attendance and academic performance. The school nurse is the only person qualified to develop healthcare plans, specifically Individualized Healthcare Plans (IHPs) and Emergency Action Plans (EAPs). Resources
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	The nation's special education law. IDEA.ed.gov
IEP	Individual Education Program	An IEP is a document uniquely designed for one specific student to improve educational results for that child. Every child with a disability who attends public school and receives special education and related services must have an IEP. Individualized Education Program (IEP) CDE
LEA	Local Education Agency	A public board of education or other public authority within a state that maintains administrative control of public elementary or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of a state. School districts and BOCES are both LEAs.
LPHA	Local Public Health Agency	Agencies with a fundamental and complex role as the front line for delivery of basic public health services to communities.
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment	A provision of IDEA that ensures students receiving special education services should be with students in general education to the maximum extent appropriate.
MAT	Medication Administration Training	An Instructional Program for Training Unlicensed Personnel to Give Medication in Out-of-Home Child Care, Schools, and Camp Settings.

Acronym	Represents...	Meaning/Function
MTSS	Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)	A prevention-based framework for improving outcomes of every student through family, school, and community partnering and a layered continuum of evidence-based practices. Multi-Tiered System of Supports
NASN	National Association of School Nurses	NASN is a national specialty nursing organization representing school nurses. About NASN - National Association of School Nurses
OCR	Office of Civil Rights	Sub-agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services focused on enforcing civil rights laws. OCR Home HHS.gov
OHI	Other Health Impairment	One of the eligibility categories listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A child with other health impairment has limited strength, vitality or alertness due to a chronic or acute health condition, which prevents the child from receiving reasonable educational benefit from general education and therefore needs specialized instruction. Other Health Impaired (OHI) CDE
RTI	Response to Intervention	A preventive approach to improving individual outcomes through high-quality universal instruction within a multi-tiered system that connects supports matched to students' academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs. Response to Intervention Within Colorado-Multi Tiered System of Supports CDE
SED	Serious Emotional Disability	One of the eligibility categories listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A child with a Serious Emotional Disability shall have emotional or social functioning which prevents the child from receiving reasonable educational benefit from general education and therefore needs specialized instruction. Serious Emotional Disability (SED) CDE
SLD	Speech and Language Disability	One of the eligibility categories listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A child with SLD shall have a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell or do mathematical calculations which prevents the child from receiving reasonable educational benefit from general education and therefore needs specialized instruction. Specific Learning Disability (SLD) CDE
SSP	Special Service Provider	Special Service Provider (also commonly referred to as related services) professionals, (include school nurses), provide essential services to students to enhance their educational experiences. Special Services Providers CDE; SSP License
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury	Injury to the brain caused by an external physical force. In terms of IDEA: A child with a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a child with an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, which impairment adversely affects the child's ability to receive reasonable educational benefit from general education and therefore needs specialized instruction. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) CDE
504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act	A federal law designed to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education. Frequently Asked Questions: Section 504 Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

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UAP	Unlicensed Assistive Personnel	Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP): Any person who does not have a nursing or medical license, who acts in a complementary role, and whom the registered nurse or physician authorized to perform certain nursing or physician tasks, which the individual is not otherwise authorized to perform. For example, a school principal is licensed as an educator, but is not licensed to perform health care tasks. The UAP could be a secretary, school administrator, teacher, para-educator, therapist, bus driver, practical nurse, child care worker, or health aide. The UAP cannot train, redelegate, or ask any other person to perform any nursing task under any circumstances. (MAT 6th edition)