What is Child Find?

Every Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) and school district is required to have procedures in place to help locate students who may need special education services. Please contact the SELPA office at 760.873.3262, ext. 2185, or your local school district if you have questions about referring a child for special education services. Inyo County SELPA has a brochure.

Who can help me if I'm worried about my child's education?

Be sure to first address your concerns at your child's school or the school district office. The usual process is to discuss your child's educational progress with his or her regular teachers, then with the principal. If you continue to have concerns, please contact the SELPA office.

Who can I contact to come with me to my child's IEP?

Contact the SELPA office or your local school district for information.

My child attends a private school. Is my child entitled to special education services?

The answer is "maybe." Every school district in Inyo County has the responsibility to "find" and offer an assessment for every child suspected of having a disability. The SELPA policy on the Provision of Special Education Services in a Private School can provide you with detailed information. Please contact the SELPA office for this information.

Inyo County Superintendent of Schools/SELPA
166 Grandview Drive
Bishop, CA 93514
Phone: 760-873-3262
Fax: 760-873-3324
E-mail: kwatson@icsos.us

District Contacts

Big Pine Unified School District
760.938.2222

Bishop Unified School District
760.872.3680

Death Valley Unified School District
760.852.4303

Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
760.873.3262, ext. 2185

Lone Pine Unified School District
760.876.5579

Owens Valley Unified School District
760.878.2405

Round Valley Joint Elementary School District
760.387.2525

Inyo County Superintendent of Schools/SELPA

Do You Know A Child With Special Needs?

What is Child Find?

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children and youth ages birth to 22 years of age who are suspected of having or have a disability or developmental delay, in order to provide appropriate special education services under the law.

When should a child be referred to Child find?

A child should be referred when:

* A health or medical disorder interferes with development and/or learning

* A child seems to have difficulty seeing or hearing

* A child appears to have social, emotional or behavioral difficulties that affect his/her ability to learn or interact with others

* A child has a diagnosed progressive or degenerative condition that will eventually impair or impede the child's ability to learn.

* A child seems to have difficulty understanding directions like others that are his/her age

* A child's speech is not understood by family or friends

* A child has difficulty with reading, writing, math or other school subjects.

Who is eligible for services?

A student must be evaluated and identified as having a disability to be eligible for special education programs and/or related services. The degree of the student's impairment must require special education. The disability categories are:

* Autism

* Hearing impairment, includes Deafness

* Emotionally Disturbed

* Language/Speech Disorder

* Intellectually Disabled

* Multiple Disabilities

* Orthopedic Impairment

* Other Health Impairment

* Specific Learning disability

* Traumatic Brain Injury

* Visual Impairment

* Deaf/Blind

What is Special Education?

Special education is instruction designed to meet the unique learning strengths and needs of the individual student with disabilities from ages birth to 22 years of age. It is defined as:

* Specially designed instruction

* At no cost to the parents

* To meet the unique needs of a child with a disability

How can children be referred?

A referral may be made by a parent or any person concerned about a child. Parent involvement and agreement are obtained prior to any further action. Information is confidential and the privacy of children and parents is protected.