

Special Education Overview

A Complex Journey to Do What Is Best for Children.



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Holding an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting for a Child

The cost of substitute teachers
to cover classes while meetings are held



Limitation by Law on the Number of Students Assigned to a Special Ed Teacher



Costly Related Services for Spec. Ed. Students

1. Special Transportation
2. Assistive Technology
3. Personal Care Assistants
4. Classroom Assistants
5. Speech and Language Specialists
6. Occupational Therapy
7. Physical Therapy
8. Vision Therapy
9. Hearing Therapy
10. Orientation and Mobility Therapy
11. Mental Health Support



Costly In-House Intensive Support Programs



Life Skills

Autistic Support

Multidisabilities

Emotional Support



Expensive Outside Placements for Severe Needs

1. Intermediate Unit Programs
2. Approved Private Schools
3. Private Schools
4. Residential Programs

Contracted Personnel

4 Speech Therapists
1 Physical Therapist
3 Occupational Therapists
1 Vision Teacher
1 Hearing Support Teacher
74 Personnel Care Assistants
2 Teaching Assistants
9 Behavior Specialists
1 Mental Health Coordinator
2 Nurses

Recommendations for Legislation

1. Pressure Congress to move IDEA funding from the "discretionary budget" and into "mandatory spending."
2. Increase the State's Special Ed Subsidy that has been frozen for the past 5 years.
3. Cap Tuition for Out of District Placements.
4. Cap Fees for Attorneys representing parents.