



Autism Acronyms and Abbreviations You Should Know

Adapted from "Common Acronyms Used in Autism" by The Autism Community in Action (TACA)

A

- AAC - Augmentative and Alternative Communication
- ABA - Applied Behavior Analysis
- ABC - Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
- ABLLS - Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills test
- ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
- ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- ADOS - Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule
- ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- AT - Assistive Technology

B

- BCBA - Board Certified Behavioral Analyst
- BIP - Behavior Intervention Plan

C

- CAPD - Central Auditory Processing Disorder
- CARS - Childhood Autism Rating Scale
- CBT - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

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D

DD - Department of Disabilities/Developmentally Delayed/Developmental Disorder

DSM - Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (by the American Psychiatric Association)

DX - Diagnosis, diagnosed

E

ED - Emotional Disturbance, Emotional Disability

EF - Executive Functioning

EI - Early Intervention

EPSDT - Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (Medicaid Program)

ESY - Extended School Year

F

FAPE - Free Appropriate Public Education

FBA - Functional Behavioral Assessment

FERPA - Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act

FX - Functioning

G

GARS - Gilliam Autism Rating Scale

GI - Gastrointestinal

H

HCBW - Home and Community Based Waiver

I

IACC - Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee

ID - Intellectual Disability

IDD - Intellectual Developmental Disorder (as of March 2022)

IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

IEE - Independent Educational Evaluation

IEP - Individualized Education Plan/Individualized Education Program

IFSP - Individualized Family Service Plan

IHP - Individualized Habilitation Program

L

LEA - Local Education Agency

LRE - Least Restrictive Environment

M

M-CHAT - Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers

N

ND - Neurodiverse or neurodivergent

NT - Neurotypical

O

OT - Occupational Therapy/Therapist

P

PECS - Picture Exchange Communication System

PLAAFP - Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance

PLOP/PLP - Present Levels of Performance

PT - Physical Therapy/Therapist

PWN - Prior Written Notice

S

SLP - Speech and Language Pathologist

SPD - Sensory Processing Disorder

SPED - Special Education

V

VB - Verbal Behavior

VR - Vocational Rehabilitation

W

WAIS - Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale

WISC - Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children