

Rhode Island Parent and Families RESOURCE GUIDE *to Learning Disabilities*



In Rhode Island

14.7%

of public school students received
special education services

7,582 CHILDREN

(ages 6-21) in 2018-19 in Rhode Island
were identified as having specific learning
disabilities (SLDs)



Rhode Island Learning Disabilities Laws & Guidelines

[Rhode Island Criteria and
Guidance for the Identification of
Specific Learning Disabilities](#)
(2010)

[Rhode Island Regulations
Governing the Education of
Children with Disabilities](#) (2019)

Rhode Island Resources

» [Rhode Island Department of
Education's Office of Special
Education](#)

» [Special Education Advisory
Committee](#)

» [Rhode Island Parent Info Network](#)

» [New England ADA Center](#)



Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Students and Adults with Learning Disabilities



- » Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- » Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- » Americans with Disabilities Act
- » Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- » Every Student Succeeds Act
- » Research Excellence and Advancements for Dyslexia Act

40%

Congress promised to fund the extra cost of special education in 1975 with IDEA

15%

The extra cost of special education that Congress appropriated in 2021

Nationwide

14% or 7 million

public school students received special education in 2017-18

Nationwide

34% or 2.38 million

public school students who received special education services had SLDs

SOURCES

U.S. Department of Education, ED Facts Data Warehouse (EDW): "IDEA Part B Child Count and Educational Environments Collection," 2018-19.

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Learning Disabilities Association of America (Ed.). (2017). What Every Parent Needs to Know About Learning Disabilities. Retrieved from https://ldaamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/LDAA_ebook_parents_final.pdf.

Center for Parent Information and Resources (Ed.). (2017, March 3). Developing Your Child's IEP. Retrieved from <https://www.parentcenterhub.org/pa12/>.

Understood (Ed.). (2019, October 18). Understanding Special Education. Retrieved from <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/special-services/special-education-basics/understanding-special-education>.

U.S. Department of Education (Ed.). (2019, August 30). Guide to the Individualized Education Program. Retrieved from <https://www2.ed.gov/parents/needs/spced/iepguide/index.html>.



PARENT RESOURCES

- » [What Every Parent Needs to Know About Learning Disabilities](#) (LDA of America)
- » [Developing Your Child's IEP](#) (Center for Parent Information & Resources)
- » [Understanding Special Education](#) (Understood)
- » [A Guide to the IEP](#) (U.S. Department of Education)