

13 Categories of Disability Under IDEA Law

- IDEA = Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- IEP = Individualized Educational Plan
- There are 13 different disability categories as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), under which **3- through 22-years-olds** may be eligible for services.
- In order to qualify for special education, the IEP Team must determine that a child has a disability in one of the 13 categories, **and that it adversely affects their educational performance.**

The 13 Qualifying Disability Categories for an IEP are as follows:

- 1) Autism Spectrum Disorder
- 2) Deaf-Blindness
- 3) Deafness
- 4) Emotional Disturbance
- 5) Hearing Impairment
- 6) Intellectual Disability
- 7) Multiple Disabilities
- 8) Orthopedic Impairment
- 9) Other Health Impairment
- 10) Specific Learning Disability
- 11) Speech or Language Impairment
- 12) Traumatic Brain Injury
- 13) Visual Impairment, including Blindness

