

Service Providers

Here's a helpful list of common **special education service providers** along with brief descriptions of what each one does:

1. Special Education Teacher

Provides individualized instruction based on the student's IEP. Works closely with the IEP team to adapt lessons and support classroom success.

2. School Psychologist

Conducts evaluations to determine eligibility for special education. Helps assess learning, behavior, and emotional needs.

3. Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)

Supports students with speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders. Delivers therapy and consults on language-based accommodations.

4. Occupational Therapist (OT)

Helps students develop fine motor skills, sensory processing, self-care skills, and strategies for classroom tasks like handwriting or using tools.

5. Physical Therapist (PT)

Assists students with gross motor development, mobility, posture, and physical access to the learning environment.

6. Behavior Specialist / Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

Develops behavior intervention plans (BIPs), supports positive behavior strategies, and trains staff to manage behavior challenges.

7. Vision Specialist / Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI)

Supports students who are blind or have low vision. Teaches Braille, orientation and mobility skills, and use of adaptive technology.

8. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist

Supports students with hearing loss. May teach sign language, speechreading, and communication strategies or recommend hearing technology.

9. School Counselor

Provides emotional and academic support, and may assist in developing coping or social skills for students with IEPs or 504 Plans.



Service Providers (continued)

10. Social Worker

Helps families navigate school services and coordinates community support. Provides counseling and connects families with outside resources.

11. Paraprofessional / Instructional Aide

Works under a teacher's supervision to provide classroom support, 1:1 assistance, or help with accommodations and behavioral strategies.

12. Assistive Technology Specialist

Assesses a student's need for devices, software, or tools that support learning. Trains staff and students to use them effectively.

13. Transition Coordinator

Supports older students with disabilities as they prepare for life after high school. Helps develop goals related to employment, education, or independent living.

14. Case Manager

Often, a special education teacher or speech language pathologist (if a speech-only student) or school staff member who organizes the IEP process, monitors services, and is the main point of contact for families.

