

# TEAM GLOSSARY

## *Understanding Key Terms*

TERM	DEFINITION
Inclusion	The practice of educating all students, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, in the same classroom environment. It ensures that every student has access to the general education curriculum and is a valued member of the school community.
Inclusive Practices	Teaching strategies and approaches that accommodate the diverse learning needs of all students in a classroom. These practices aim to remove barriers to learning and participation for students with disabilities.
Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)	The LRE is a legal requirement under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that states students with disabilities should be educated with their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent appropriate. LRE ensures that students are not placed in special classes or separate schools unless absolutely necessary.
Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)	SDI refers to the adaptation of content, methodology, or delivery of instruction to address the unique needs of a student with a disability. It ensures that the student can access the general education curriculum and achieve academic success.
Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI)	SAI is a type of SDI that is specifically tailored to support students with disabilities in achieving academic goals. It may include modifications to instruction, curriculum, or materials to help the student succeed in the general education environment. SAI services are reflected in the service page of the IEP.
Collaboration	Collaboration in education refers to the partnership between general education teachers, special education teachers, paraprofessionals, and other school staff to plan, deliver, and assess instruction. Effective collaboration ensures that the needs of all students are met.
Co-Teaching	Co-teaching involves two or more educators working together to plan, teach, and assess the same group of students in the same classroom. Typically, it includes a general education teacher and a special education teacher who share responsibility for instruction.
Universal Design for Learning (UDL)	UDL is an educational framework that guides the development of flexible learning environments to accommodate diverse learners. It emphasizes the use of multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression to meet the needs of all students.
Adapting Instruction	Adapting instruction involves modifying the way teaching is delivered to meet the needs of individual students. This may include changing the pace of instruction, the complexity of tasks, or the way materials are presented.
Equity-Centered	An equity-centered approach in education focuses on recognizing and addressing the unique needs, challenges, and strengths of each student, particularly those from historically marginalized groups. It emphasizes the importance of providing resources, opportunities, and support that are tailored to ensure every student can succeed, rather than treating all students the same.

