



# KIPP JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

KIPP Jacksonville Public Schools provides comprehensive support and services to students with disabilities (SWD) who qualify for special education. The Director of Student Services manages the Exceptional Education and Student Services program.

At KIPP, we offer General Education classes with push-in and pull-out services as well as outsource accommodations for a variety of therapies including speech, language, occupational, and physical therapies.

Most students with disabilities can receive the services they need at our K-8 Academies and at KIPP Bold City High School. Eligible students are provided services and supports identified in their Individual Education Plan (IEP), which is tailored to each child's unique needs.

The Exceptional Education and Student Services program is committed to creating strong partnerships with parents and guardians, so they can actively be involved in educational decisions regarding their child. Parents are provided with procedural safeguards and are integral members of the IEP team.

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# Disability Categories

## Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

ASD is characterized by an atypical developmental profile, with a pattern of qualitative impairments in social interaction and social communication, and the presence of restricted or repetitive, patterns of behavior, interests or activities, which occur across settings. The term "spectrum" in ASD refers to the wide range of symptoms and severity which affect individuals differently.

## Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH)

The Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program provides services to students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing with a hearing loss that is aided or unaided, that impacts the processing of linguistic information, and which adversely affects performance in the educational environment.

## Developmentally Delayed

The Developmentally Delayed (DD) program serves children aged three through eight who experience delays in one or more key developmental areas. These areas include adaptive or self-help skills, cognitive development, communication, social or emotional development, and physical development, which may involve fine, gross, or perceptual motor skills. The program provides support and interventions to help children address these developmental challenges and foster their overall growth.

## Dual-Sensory Impairments (DSI): Deaf-Blind

Dual-sensory impairment (deaf-blindness) is defined as impairment affecting both vision and hearing, the combination of which causes a serious impairment in the abilities to acquire information, communicate, or function within the environment, or a degenerative condition which will lead to such an impairment.

## Emotional/Behavioral Disability (EBD)

A student with an emotional/behavioral disability has persistent (is not sufficiently responsive to implemented evidence-based interventions) and consistent emotional or behavioral responses that adversely affect performance in the educational environment that cannot be attributed to age, culture, gender, or ethnicity.

## Hospital or Homebound (HH)

A homebound or hospitalized student is a student who has a medically diagnosed physical or psychiatric condition that is acute or catastrophic in nature, a chronic illness, or a repeated intermittent illness due to a persisting medical problem, which confines the student to home or hospital and restricts activities for an extended period.

## Intellectual Disability (InD)

An intellectual disability is defined as significantly below average general intellectual and adaptive functioning manifested during the developmental period, with significant delays in academic skills. Developmental period refers to birth to eighteen (18) years of age.

## Language Impairment (LI)

A language impairment is defined as a disorder in one or more of the basic learning processes involved in understanding or in using spoken or written language. These include: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantic and/or pragmatics. A language impairment is not primarily the result of factors related to chronological age, gender, culture, ethnicity, or limited English proficiency.

# Disability Categories cont'd.

## Orthopedic Impairments (OI)

Orthopedic impairment means a severe skeletal, muscular and/or neuromuscular impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments resulting from congenital anomalies (e.g., including, but not limited to, skeletal deformity or spina bifida) and impairments resulting from other causes (e.g., including, but not limited to, cerebral palsy or amputations).

## Other Health Impairments (OHI)

Other Health Impairments (OHI) means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness. This includes having a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment or that is due to chronic or acute health problems.

## Specific Learning Disability (SLD)

A specific learning disability is defined as a disorder in one or more of the basic learning processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest in significant difficulties affecting the ability to listen, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematics. Associated conditions may include, but are not limited to, dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, or developmental aphasia. A specific learning disability does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of a visual, hearing, motor, intellectual, or emotional/behavioral disability, limited English proficiency, or environmental, cultural, or economic factors.

## Speech Impairment (SI)

Speech impairments are disorders of speech sounds (phonological, articulation), fluency, or voice that interfere with communication, adversely affect performance or functioning in the educational environment, and result in the need for exceptional student education. A speech impairment is not primarily the result of factors related to chronological age, gender, culture, ethnicity, or limited English proficiency.

## Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects educational performance.

## Visual Impairments (VI): Blind and Partially Sighted

The Visually Impaired Program provides specialized instruction in all areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum to eligible students, age birth through twenty-two years.



# KIPP Gifted Program

KIPP Jacksonville has a Gifted Program for students in kindergarten through 8th grade. Gifted students attend special classes once a week at our KIPP Impact campus.

The state of Florida defines gifted students as students who have superior intellectual development and are capable of high performance.

KIPP's Gifted Program aims to develop an aspiration for excellence, a sense of individual worth, and a responsibility to self and society within each student.

The program is also designed to provide the knowledge, skills, and tools for teachers, parents, and the community to recognize gifted students as individuals with special needs and abilities.

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Students are eligible for the gifted if they meet one of the criteria below:

- ✓ The student demonstrates:
  - The need for a special program
  - A majority of characteristics of gifted students according to a standard scale or checklist
  - Superior intellectual development as measured by an intelligence quotient of two standard deviations or more above the mean on an individually administered standardized test of intelligence
- ✓ The student is a member of an underrepresented group and meets the criteria specified in an approved school district plan for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in programs for students who are gifted. Underrepresented groups are defined in Rule 6A-6.03019, F.A.C. as students with limited English proficiency or students from low socio-economic status families

# How to Enroll

If your student is transferring to KIPP Jacksonville Public Schools from another district in Florida (including DCPS) and received special education services, follow these steps.

- Apply online at [kipjax.schoolmint.com](http://kipjax.schoolmint.com)
- Once a student has been selected for admission in the enrollment lottery, parents will need to register.
- During registration under Special Service, please indicate if your student receives any special services, including IEP, 504, or Gifted Services. Please have those documents readily available to avoid any delays in registration.
- If you need additional enrollment assistance you can request to speak to the registrar, exceptional student education lead teacher or school counselor.

Comparable services at the designated school will be provided until an IEP team meeting is held to identify the student's current educational needs and how those needs will be met within the new educational environment.



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## Contact Information

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties after the school year has started, parents may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services.

KIPP VOICE Academy Special Education Lead: Delvega Walton ([dwalton@kipjax.org](mailto:dwalton@kipjax.org))

KIPP Bessie Coleman Academy Special Education Lead: Dominique Miller ([dmiller@kipjax.org](mailto:dmiller@kipjax.org))

KIPP Impact Academy Special Education Lead: Contact school principal

KIPP Bold City High School Special Education Lead: Kirby Rengifo, [krengifo@kipjax.org](mailto:krengifo@kipjax.org)