

What is special education?

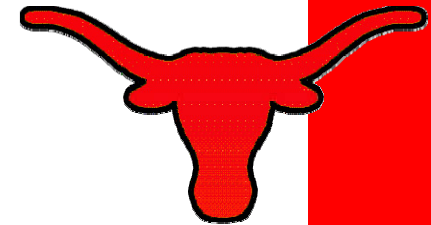
Special education is the provision of a continuum of child-centered educational and support services, as well as those provided in the general school program, to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities.



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**Special
Education
Services**

AXTELL ISD

Who are the students who need special education services?

In general, students who need special education services have learning disabilities, speech or language impairments, physical disabilities, mental retardation, emotional disturbance, traumatic brain injury, autism, multiple handicapping conditions, visual impairments or auditory impairments. A student with a disability may be eligible for special education services from birth through the age of 21 prior to September 1st of a given school year.

What is the goal of the special education program?

All students, regardless of special need or condition, are provided a well-balanced curriculum that includes those essential elements that represent core knowledge, skills, and competencies that all students should learn to be productive members of society.

Students with special education needs are instructed in those same essential elements in a manner determined on an individual basis to be appropriate to their needs.

INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mainstream
Resource classes, Grades 1-12
Homebound services
Preschool program for children with disabilities
Itinerant teachers for visually impaired students
Self-contained special education classes:

- Learning in Functional Environments
- Severely Emotionally Disturbed

Speech/language therapy
Vocational programming
Hospital classes
Community classes

What related services are offered?

School districts offer related services through their own personnel or through contracts with other agencies. These services may include the following:

- ❖ School health services
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Counseling
- ❖ Diagnostic services
- ❖ Physical Therapy
- ❖ Occupational Therapy
- ❖ Psychological Services
- ❖ Adaptive Physical Education
- ❖ Parent Education

A need for related services will be determined for each student based on appropriate assessments. Specific objectives will be developed as part of each student's educational plan. Parents who believe their child qualifies for special education services may request an educational evaluation at the child's school.