

# New Jersey Inclusion Resources for Families

The following organizations can provide **information and training** about inclusion: legal requirements, developing an IEP for inclusion and advocacy strategies to secure inclusive services for your child.

The organizations with an \*asterisk beside them also have limited resources to **support parents at IEP meetings** regarding inclusion. On the inside is your step by step guide to the getting your child services in the **Least Restrictive Environment**.



## **The Arc of New Jersey\***

985 Livingston Avenue  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
(732) 246-2525  
[www.arcnj.org](http://www.arcnj.org)

## **New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities**

PO Box 700  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700  
(609) 292-3745  
[www.njcdd.org](http://www.njcdd.org)

## **Statewide Parent Advocacy Network of NJ\***

35 Halsey Street, 4th Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102  
(973) 642-8100  
(800) 654-SPAN  
[www.spannj.org](http://www.spannj.org)

## **Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey**

1005 Whitehead Road Extension, Suite 1  
Ewing, NJ 08638  
Toll Free: 888-322-1918  
[www.cpodnj.org](http://www.cpodnj.org)

## **UCP of Northern, Central & Southern NJ**

245 Main Street, Suite 113  
Chester, NJ 07930  
Phone: (908) 879-2243  
[www.ucpnscnj.org](http://www.ucpnscnj.org)

## **Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey**

1 AAA Drive, Suite 203  
Trenton, NJ 08691  
(800) 336-5843  
[www.efnj.co](http://www.efnj.co)

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## **Family Support Center of NJ**

1 AAA Drive, Suite 203  
Trenton, NJ 08691  
Phone: (800) 336-5843  
[www.fscnj.org](http://www.fscnj.org)

## **New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education\***

9 Auer Court, Suite H  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-5847  
732-613-0400  
[www.njcie.net](http://www.njcie.net)

## **The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities/ UMDNJ**

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
335 George Street, PO Box 2688  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-2688  
(732) 235-9300  
[www.rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter](http://www.rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter)

## **The Association for Special Children and Families of New Jersey\***

PO Box 494  
Hewitt, NJ 07421  
(973) 728-8744  
[www.ascfamily.org](http://www.ascfamily.org)

## **Spina Bifida Resource Network\***

84 Park Avenue  
Suite G-106  
Flemington, NJ 08822-1173  
(908) 782-7475  
[www.thesprn.org](http://www.thesprn.org)

## **Brain Injury Association of NJ**

825 Georges Road, 2nd Floor  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
(732) 745-0200  
[www.bianj.org](http://www.bianj.org)

# Least Restrictive Environment: Step by Step

## Step 1

Have my child's educational goals and objectives been developed prior to the placement recommendation?  
Are the goals clearly stated and are the objectives measurable?

if YES

proceed to the next step!



Inform team members of this and state that it is unacceptable, and that you expect clear and measurable goals and objectives for your child before any decision of placement.

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

## Step 5

Have ALL possible services and supports been considered to meet the individual needs of my child in the regular classroom?

if YES

regular class placement must be available as an option, proceed to the next step!

if NO, this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

Look at all aids and services that exist that can provide support. In-district resources are not the only resources to be considered. Plan for your child to be placed in the regular class with whatever supports the team can envision to enable the student to succeed.



## Step 6

In comparison to a special class, have the benefits of the regular class placement been examined? What benefits are there to my child with a disability?  
What benefits are there to the non-disabled children?

if YES

regular class placement must be available as an option, proceed to the next step!

if NO, this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

The child with the disability does not have to learn what the other children are learning. Interaction with non-disabled peers is a legitimate benefit.



## Step 2

Have my child's educational needs (as expressed in the evaluation) been accurately addressed by the proposed educational goals and objectives?

if YES proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

Clarify educational needs and goals. Inform team members that these must be determined before a specific placement is considered.

## Step 3

Have the special education, related services and assistive technology devices or services my child needs been determined prior to the placement decisions?

if YES proceed to the next step!

if NO this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

Identify the special education, related services and assistive technology devices or services your child needs. Make sure there is a "direct relationship between the present levels of educational performance ... and the specific education and related services to be provided."

## Step 4

Has the regular class with appropriate supports been examined as the first possible placement option? Has it been examined, not as it currently exists, but as it might be modified?

if YES proceed to the next step!

if NO, this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

According to the state's LRE policy memorandum, "Each placement option is examined not only as it currently exists, but as it might be modified. Regular class placement is examined as the first option..."

## Step 7

Unless there is a clear cut reason why my child's needs cannot be met, my child should be placed in the regular class with supports. Are the supports being provided? Are there opportunities for interactions with children without disabilities?

if YES continue to monitor the program for increased opportunities, especially considering supports that may help increase interaction.

if NO, this is a **VIOLATION** of IDEA.

Examination of all areas of the daily school environment should be made to identify opportunities for academic and nonacademic interactions, and written into the IEP.

**THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS CAN PROVIDE FREE LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN CERTAIN CASES TO SECURE INCLUSIVE SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILD.**

**Community Health Law Project  
Administrative Offices** (contact for local offices)  
185 Valley Street  
South Orange, NJ 07079  
(973) 275-1175  
www.chlp.org

**Disability Rights New Jersey\***  
210 South Broad Street, 3rd Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
(609) 292-9742 or (800) 922-7233 in NJ Only  
www.drnj.org

**Education Law Center**  
60 Park Place, Suite 300  
Newark, NJ 07102  
(973) 624-1815  
www.edlawcenter.org

**Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia  
United Way Building**  
1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 2nd Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 627-7100  
www.pilcop.org

**THE FOLLOWING STATE AGENCIES CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION AND TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS ABOUT INCLUSION.**

**CHILD CARE:**

For help in finding and paying for quality child care, call the New Jersey Child Care Helpline at 1-800-332-9227 or contact your county's Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Agency. See this link for a list of county contacts: <http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dfd/programs/child/ccrr/index.html>

**EARLY INTERVENTION (BIRTH TO 3):**

**Family Link Early Intervention Collaborative**  
2333 Morris Avenue, Suite A20  
Union, NJ 07083  
(908) 964-5303  
(Essex, Morris, Sussex, Union, Warren)  
www.njeis.org/familylink

**Mid-Jersey CARES REIC  
Central New Jersey Maternal & Child Health Consortium**  
2 King Arthur Court, Suite B  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
800-206-6988 or 732-937-5437  
www.cnjmchc.org  
(Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Somerset)

**Helpful Hands REIC**  
65 Willowbrook Boulevard, 6th Floor  
Wayne, NJ 07470  
(973) 256-8484  
(Bergen, Hudson, Passaic)  
www.nreic.org

**Southern Regional Early Intervention Collaborative**  
Winslow Professional Center  
339 South Route 73, Suite 6  
Berlin, NJ 08009  
(856) 768-6747  
www.snjreic.org  
(Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem)

**New Jersey Department of Education Learning Resource Centers (Preschool through High School)**  
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/lrc/genfo.htm>

**Learning Resource Center North**  
7 Glenwood Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 201  
East Orange, NJ 07018  
(973) 414-4491

**Learning Resource Center Central**  
200 Riverview Plaza  
1st Floor  
Trenton, NJ  
609-633-8893

**Learning Resource Center North Satellite**  
322 American Road  
Morris Plains, NJ 07950  
(973) 631-6345

**Learning Resource Center - South at EIRC**  
South Jersey Technology Park,  
Samuel H. Jones Innovation Center — Suite 200,  
107 Gilbreth Parkway  
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062  
(856) 582-7000