

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Special education services offer a wide range of instruction and support to a variety of students and with a variety of needs. Students are identified through individual evaluations and programming is specific to each student's education and transition to post-secondary education, community, and living needs.

Questions and Answers:

Q: Do students have to be enrolled in special education classes if they are identified?

A: Not necessarily, the level of instruction or need is constantly being monitored throughout the school year; course decisions are made and reviewed at each student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings.

Q: What is a co-taught class?

A: Co-taught classes are classes in which a regular education teacher is paired with a special education teacher to instruct and assist students in a regular education classroom. The teachers work together to deliver specific and differentiated instruction to students in the class.

Q: What is the S.T.E.P. Work Program?

A: The Secondary Transition to Employment Program is offered to special education students through their IEP if appropriate. The program offers one class period of instruction and work site experience up to three hours per day.

Programs Offered:

Learning Disabilities (LD):

Courses are offered to students who require services to aid their learning and skill development. Curricular offerings are available in instructional level classes for most required coursework as well as courses for reading and math skills.

Speech-Language Impaired (SLI):

Services and courses are offered for students who exhibit difficulty with speech, voice, fluency, and/or language skills. Speech-language services often include coordination of services with other staff, parents, and transition services.

Cognitively Impaired (CI): *(Taught at Normal Community West High School Only)*

This program consists of functional academic, social skill, vocational, and community-based skills. The expected outcome of this program is to prepare students to function as independently as possible. Curricular CI classes include math, language arts, independent living, and foods. As appropriate students are given opportunities and support to participate in classes and activities with non-disabled peers.

Student Support Program (SSP): *(Taught at Normal Community High School Only)*

This program is offered to those students who display specific instructional and behavioral needs. Enrollment in other classes within the student's home school may be offered. Supplemental instruction and assistance will be given to the student as needed. Pupil to teacher ratio is kept low to provide maximum benefit to the student. In addition, a work-study program is offered to juniors, seniors, and some qualified sophomores. This course allows students to develop basic vocational attitudes and skills in an actual job environment for one-half day. One hour per day of related classroom work to provide additional support and information is required.

Adaptive Learning Program (E.D./B.D.)

This therapeutic program aids students with related social or emotional difficulties that cause a negative effect on their development. Special services are designed to promote educational growth and development. These students require intensive programming that is provided in a self-contained setting. Child and parent counseling are an integral component of the educational program.

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Courses

Classroom Driver Education for Special Education Students

(18 Weeks) (1 Semester Only)

Special Education students receive the opportunity to master materials presented in the classroom portion of driver's education. The emphasis in the course includes: a foundation of basic skills and responsible attitudes related to driving, the knowledge and understanding of the Illinois Rules of the Road, and the responsibility and awareness of defensive driving and how it applies to the task of driving. The state exam is taken during this course.

Independent Living

(Taught at Normal Community West High School Only)

This course is designed to enable students to adapt and live in the community successfully and assist their ability to function in society. Real life situations and community experiences are an integral part of the curricula.

Learning Resource Study Hall

(semester)

This supported study hall is designed as a means to monitor, assist, and provide specific skills and supports for students IEP goals and progress. Accommodations and adaptations are provided as necessary for each student. Curricular goals are supported during this time.

Pre-Vocations

(semester)

This course provides an introduction to various careers through hands on modules in career cluster areas. Students build a portfolio of their work and work related visits.