

What Do All Those Letters Mean?

Entering the world of ASDs (autism spectrum disorders) can give parents a bad case of AOS (acronym overload syndrome). This list may help.

AAC	Augmentative and Alternative Communication
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ADI-R	Autism Diagnostic Interview – revised
ADOS	Autism Diagnostic Observations Schedule
APA	American Psychological Association
ARI	Autism Research Institute
AS	Asperger’s Syndrome
ASA	Autism Society of America
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder
ASHA	American Speech-Language and Hearing Association
ASL	American Sign Language
AT	Assistive Technology
BCBA	Board Certified Behavior Analyst
BCPS	Baltimore County Public Schools
BIP	Behavior Intervention Plan
BMP	Behavior Management Plan (BIP or BMP often used interchangeably)
CARS	Child Autism Rating Scale
CBA	Curriculum Based Assessment
CLS	Communication and Language Support (BCPS autism classrooms)
CSAAC	Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children (service provider)
CWA	Children With Autism
DAN	Defeat Autism Now
DAP	Developmentally Appropriate Practices
DDA	Developmental Disabilities Administration
DI	Direct Instruction
DIR	Developmental, Individual-Difference, Relationship-Based model (Floortime)
DSM	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual
DTT	Discrete Trial Training
DT	Discrete Trial Instruction
EBP	Evidence Based Practices
ED	Emotional Disturbance
EI	Early Intervention
EIA	Early intervention assistant (trained, staffs home programs)
EIBI	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention
ESY	Extended School Year
FAPE	Free and Appropriate Public Education
FBA	Functional Behavior Assessment
IA	Instructional assistant (classroom aide)

IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP	Individualized Education Plan
IFSP	Individualized Family Service Plan
JADD	Journal of Autism and Developmental Disabilities
LRE	Least Restricted Environment
MA	Medical Assistance
MABA	Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis
M-CHAT	Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers
MDLC	Maryland Disabilities Law Center
MSDE	Maryland State Department of Education
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
MR	Mental Retardation
NCLB	No Child Left Behind
NT	Neurotypical
OAR	Organization for Autism Research
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Behavior
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs (Federal Department of Education)
OT	Occupational Therapy
PA	Personal assistant (individual aide, often untrained)
PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorders
POAC	Parents of Autistic Children
PRT	Pivotal Response Training
PT	Physical Therapy
RDI	Relationship Development Intervention
SECAC	Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee
SIB	Self-Injurious Behavior
SDI	Specially Designed Instruction
SLD	Specific Learning Disability
SLP	Speech and Language Pathologist
TDP	Typically Developing Peers
VB	Verbal Behavior
VI	Visual Impairment

