California

State Snapshot of Specific Learning Disabilities



US Public School Enrollment, 2020-2021: 49.4 Million Students

What is a Specific Learning Disability (SLD)?

An SLD is a brain-based disorder that affects an individual's ability to read, write, and do math (e.g., dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia). Students identified with SLD receive special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), a law that provides a free and appropriate public education to children with disabilities. Of the (13%) of the U.S. school-age population who received disability services under IDEA in the 2020–2021 academic year, (34%) received services for SLD as the primary disability.



CA Public School Enrollment, 2020-2021: 6,063,437 Students

SLD: 41%

CA Students with SLD (289,142) represent the largest proportion of students served under IDEA (711,071) in 2020 - 2021.

IDEA: 12%

65%) of CA Students with SLD spend 80% or more of their school day with their general education classroom.









