



Priorities for the Trump Administration & 116th Congress

The National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) works to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools and advocating for equal rights and opportunities.

As the 116th Congress convenes, NCLD will work to advance a number of critical priorities.

Empowering Students and Families

- **Advancing the RISE Act.** This legislation would expand access to higher education for students with disabilities by easing the process to be eligible for accommodations. The Act requires colleges to accept an IEP or 504 Plan as evidence of disability when a student seeks accommodations in college.
- **Monitoring and regulating charter schools that accept federal funds.** The Administration should ensure students with disabilities receive the academic support they need to succeed and that evidence based promising models of service delivery can be scaled.

Early Identification and Intervention

- **Advancing the Childcare for Working Families Act.** This bill invests greater resources in high-quality childcare, expands inclusive services for children with disabilities and increases workforce training and compensation.
- **Fully funding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and increasing funding for the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSEER).**
- **Investing in the National Comprehensive Center on Improving Literacy for Students with Disabilities and Literacy Education for All Results for the Nation.** Both of these are included in the Every Student Succeeds Act and provide parents, educators and the community with evidence-based tools to identify early challenges students may have in acquiring literacy skills.

Strengthening and Enforcing Civil Rights Laws

- **Investing in public schools.** Congress must support and invest in IDEA, ESSA, Head Start and Medicaid while rejecting any proposals that create private school vouchers, which fail to protect important civil rights.
- **Enforcing Civil Rights Laws.** Congress should reject the Administration's attempts to roll back, rescind, or change regulations or laws that protect and support disproportionately affected and marginalized communities.
- **Investing in the US Dept. of Education's Office of Civil Rights.** We must enforce and expand protections for children with disabilities and uphold IDEA's due process protections.
- **Codify in the Federal Voting Rights Law the availability of appropriate accommodations at the polls for individuals with disabilities.**