



August 8, 2025

Celebrating Excellence
NEVADA PEPii
Strengthening Families with
Education • Empowerment • Encouragement
30
EST. 1995
Years Supporting Families

Celebrating 30 Years

30 Years of Helping Families \$30 to Keep it Going

Have you heard the news?
Nevada PEP is celebrating 30 years of serving families and making a difference.

Over the years, we have helped many families and changed lives. To celebrate this incredible milestone, we're asking our community to give \$30 – one dollar for every year we've been helping families thrive.

Your \$30 gift will help us:

- Support families with educational resources and free workshops
- Educate, empower and encourage families on their journey
- Build a future where every family feels seen, heard, and supported

CLICK HERE!

Together, we can make the next 30 years even stronger.

Para Español, [presiona aquí](#). Tu donación de \$30 dólares [nos ayudará](#).

50 Years of IDEA: Honoring the Heroes Who Made It Possible

Fifty years ago, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) changed the future for millions of children with disabilities. Before its passage, children with disabilities were denied the right to attend school, excluded from classrooms, they were left without the support they needed to learn and succeed. The passage of IDEA changed everything. It guaranteed **free and appropriate public education FAPE** for every child, regardless of ability. It made sure that parents had a voice in decisions affecting their child's education.

Today, we honor the heroes of IDEA:

- The families who spoke up and refused to give up and demanded change.
- The students who inspire us daily with their courage, determination, and achievements.
- The educators and service providers who believe in every child's potential.
- The advocates, legislators, and visionaries who fought to pass and protect IDEA over the past five decades.

Because of their dedication, children with disabilities are not just included—they are learning, achieving, and thriving. As we celebrate 50 years, we continue to protect the promise of IDEA for generations to come. Read more about [The History of the Individuals Disability Education Act](#).



Resilience Guide for Parents and Teachers

Children can be asked to deal with problems ranging from adapting to a new classroom or online schooling to bullying by peers or even struggles at home. Resilience is the ability to thrive despite these challenges. Building resilience can help our children manage stress and feelings of anxiety and uncertainty. Here are [10 steps to build resilience](#).

Tips for the New School Year

The first day of school can be [difficult](#), especially for children with [back to school anxiety](#), or going to a [new school](#). It's important to remember that while the first day of school may be the most difficult, it doesn't mean the rest of the year will be. There are ways you can prepare your child and yourself for a great

back-to-school experience. This [link](#) is full of resources for parents including [setting routines](#), [back-to-school checklist](#), fun after-school activities and more!

UPCOMING WEBINARS LIVE ONLINE



Great opportunities to increase your advocacy skills and improve education opportunities for your child. Register for these informative FREE trainings.

- Presented by Nevada PEP

Student Led IEP's

Monday, August 11

5:00pm-6:00pm

Join Youth MOVE Nevada to learn how youth can participate in their own IEP meetings. Both youth and parents will learn ways that youth can strengthen their advocacy skills as they work with their IEP team in creating an Individualized Education Program.

REGISTER NOW >

Positive Supports for Challenging Behaviors

Tuesday, August 19

5:30pm-6:30pm

Do you need new ideas to support your child's behavior? This webinar will help parents understand their child's challenging behaviors and learn evidence-based practices to teach your child new positive behavior skills.

REGISTER NOW >

Take Steps to Stop Bullying

Tuesday, August 12

5:00pm-6:00pm

If you are concerned about bullying, this workshop is for you! Join us as we discuss what bullying is, what to do if your child is being bullied, and what to expect after a report of bullying is made.

REGISTER NOW >

Planning for Success After High School

Thursday, August 21

5:00pm-6:00pm

Is your student in high school? Do they have a transition plan in their IEP? Parents and youth will learn how creating a plan based on the student's strengths and interests can lead to success after high school.

REGISTER NOW >

Looking for more convenient times? Did you know our Free On Demand webinars are always available 24/7 in English and Spanish [click here](#).

Assessing Nonverbal and Minimally Verbal Children

When a young child is nonverbal or speaking fewer words than expected according to [developmental milestones](#), parents want to find out why. Will they eventually learn to talk on their own or could they struggle to speak throughout their life? Is this part of the range of typical development or a sign of something serious? Learn about the [steps to take](#) for your child.

Concerned About Your Child's Development

Taking the First Step

Talking to the doctor is the first step toward getting help for your child if you are concerned about his or her development (how your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves). Don't wait. Acting early can make a real difference! Here are some [steps](#) parents can take.



What is Section 504?

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (referred to as Section 504) is a federal law designed to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Those programs include public school districts, institutions of higher education, and other state and local education agencies.

To qualify under Section 504, a student must have a disability and that disability must limit a major life function. A child who has a disability but does not qualify for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) may still be entitled to services or accommodations under Section 504. The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADA) broadened the definition of disability in the ADA as well as in Section 504. Section 504 requires a school district to provide a "free appropriate public education" (FAPE) to each eligible student in its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability.

To understand the process here is a [Section 504 Flow-Chart](#). The U.S. Department of Education has a [FAQ about Section 504](#). Nevada PEP has an On-Demand training about Understanding Section 504 and Civil Rights. The workshop is designed to provide an understanding of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Section 504, and to ensure that a child who has a disability receives accommodations that will improve their academic success. Click [Understanding Section 504 and Civil Rights](#) webinar.

Is a Charter School Right for Your Child?

Nevada Charter Schools are public schools. As public schools, charter schools have the opportunity and obligation to serve students with disabilities. They have the responsibility to make Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) available to all students with disabilities applies under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This includes developing and implementing an Individualized Education Program (IEPs) and ensuring access to special education services and supports as outlined in the child's IEPs. This [document](#) is designed to help parents, students, and the charter school community better understand the rights of students with disabilities under Federal disability-related laws. Here is a [FAQ about Charter Schools](#). Visit the [Nevada](#)

[Department of Education Charter School Page](#). This [resource](#) provides more information about Charter Schools. Find a [Charter School](#) in Nevada.



Because of Bullying Kids Anxious to Go Back to School

The beginning of a new school year is often filled with excitement and anticipation, but for the [1 in 5](#) children who've experienced bullying, it can bring a mix of anxiety, fear, and uncertainty. The good news is, with the right support and preparation, your child can rebuild their confidence, feel safe again, and embrace a positive school experience. [Here's how parents can help](#).

Nevada Health Authority

Learn about the new [Nevada Health Authority](#) (NVHA). The goal is to create a healthy, thriving Nevada by providing easy access to quality, affordable care and driving innovation in health care. For more information go to [Nevada Health Authority](#) website.

What is a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)?

Learn how schools use functional behavioral assessments to figure out what's causing a student's challenging behavior. The team can develop a behavior intervention plan based on the information gathered in the FBA. Behavior can be a reason kids struggle at school. Kids may disrupt class, become withdrawn, or even cut class. Whether kids know it or not, they act in certain ways for a reason. If schools and families know what's causing the behavior, they can find ways to change it. A [functional behavior assessment \(FBA\)](#) can help.



Understanding Frustration

Frustration is a natural and healthy emotion and can provide a positive learning experience for a child. The feelings of frustration that occur when your child has difficulty communicating his needs or tying his shoes are his cue that he needs to try to do something in a different way or that what he is doing is not working. Here are some tips to try at home and in school. In [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

7 Questions to Ask About How School is Going

It can be tough to get kids to talk about their day at school. But when they don't share any information, it's hard to know how things are really going. Asking open-ended questions can help get conversations about school rolling. Here are samples of some [open-ended questions](#) to ask.

Hungry Caterpillar Play School

Hungry Caterpillar Play School is a learning app for children ages 2 to 6, inspired by Eric Carle's beloved artwork and grounded in Montessori principles. It offers hundreds of safe, screen-time-friendly activities such as books, games, songs, and meditations that support early learning in reading, math, science, art, and wellness.



App by: [Story Toys](#)

Nevada Early Intervention Services

The Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) system provides services to children birth to three with developmental delay or disabilities, and their families. If your child is eligible, you and the other team members will develop, within 45 days from your child's referral to the program, a plan called an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). You will work with the team to develop outcomes for your child and family. Learn more [here](#). Check out the [Parent Handbook for services through NEIS](#).

Youth MOVE Nevada News

For many youth, August is back-to-school month! Each new school year bringing challenges and change, so it's essential to establish resilience. This [resource](#) provides 10 tips for young people to build resilience, reminding us that growth is possible through perseverance! As always, our [weekly youth-led meetings](#) are open to those across Nevada between the ages of 14 and 24. We also encourage you to follow us on [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [Facebook](#)!



Listen to our Back-to-School Podcast

Nevada PEP presents a series of podcasts on topics of interest for families. Listen to our [Back-to-School podcast](#). This episode discusses concerns that parents might have with this new school year and learn about tips that can support your child.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

[Vocational Rehabilitation](#) (VR) Nevada helps students and adults with disabilities get ready for, find, and keep jobs that match their employment goals.

This [VR Process infographic](#) is a helpful guide to understanding what to expect after you apply for services. It explains each step, including expected timelines. To learn more about VR services, listen to this recent [Youth MOVE Nevada podcast episode](#).

AT Guidance Myths and Facts Graphics

The [Myths/Facts graphics](#) highlight the content from the [Assistive Technology \(AT\) Guidance](#) released in January 2024 and are intended to provide administrators, educators, and families tools to help avoid misconceptions regarding AT, and provide examples of the use of AT devices and services for children with disabilities. Learn more about additional [federal policy to practice resources](#).

Hand in Hand

Nominate someone special who has made a positive difference in your child's life. Your special individual will receive a beautiful certificate, and a Hand in Hand lapel pin. Your story will be in our Hand in Hand Annual yearbook. Click [HERE](#) to make a nomination.



The Dyslexia Toolkit

This guide for parents provides basic information about dyslexia, common warning signs, and information on how to support your child with dyslexia at home and at school, using audio books and digital books, and accommodating students with dyslexia. Check out this [toolkit](#).

Different Ways to Support Nevada PEP



Support Nevada PEP at Smith's

Helping Nevada PEP is easy! Simply enroll your rewards card by going to [Smith's Inspiring Donations](#). Once you're successfully enrolled, choose Nevada PEP as your organization of choice. A portion of your purchase will be donated from Smith's. (Does not affect your normal Smith's card rewards!)

Support Nevada PEP with a recurring donation!

Help our organization by donating today! All donations go directly to making a difference for our cause.



[Donate Now >](#)



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