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January 12, 2026

Have You Checked Out Nevada PEP's Website?

Nevada PEP's [website](#) is filled with helpful information and resources for families of children with disabilities and those who support them. Visitors can explore free trainings, family-friendly resources, and practical tools on topics such as special education, IEPs, behavior support, bullying prevention, and transition planning. With materials available in both English and Spanish, the website is a reliable source of information and support for education, encouragement, and empowerment for families across Nevada.



Reducing Stress

Stress is part of life and while you can't always control your circumstances, you can control how you respond to them. When stress becomes overwhelming or chronic, it can affect your well-being. That's why it's essential to have effective stress relievers that can calm your mind and body. Check out these [effective](#)

[stress management techniques](#). To learn more about reducing stress visit our [Families SHARE](#) page.

What is a Manifestation Determination Meeting

A manifestation determination is a meeting to determine if the child's misbehavior at school was related to their disability. It is a meeting where parents of the child with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and the IEP team review information about the child and decide what the next step should be. Under § [300.530\(e\)](#), a manifestation determination must occur within 10 days of any decision to change the child's placement because of a violation of a code of student conduct. Read more [here](#).

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

Options to Resolve Special Education Concerns

Tuesday, January 13

5:00pm-6:00pm

Do you know that parents have rights in the Special Education law? Join us to learn options that parents can take when they and the school are not in agreement about their child's education or services.

[REGISTER NOW](#) 

Coffee Tea and IEP ([In-Person Workshop](#))

Las Vegas Office

Thursday, January 15

My Child is Struggling in School: What is My Next Step

Tuesday, January 20

5:00pm-6:00pm

In this workshop we will discuss what to do if your child is struggling at school or if you suspect they may need special education. You will learn what schools can do to help and about the special education evaluation process.

[REGISTER NOW](#) 

How Is My Child Reading?

Thursday, January 22

5:00pm-6:00pm

11:00am-12:00pm

Don't miss this small group in person learning opportunity for families! This guided interactive discussion will explore the special education process and encourage meaningful participation in IEPs. You'll leave with new ideas that encourage high expectations that lead to success for students with disabilities. **Please call 1-800-216-5188 to register.**

Do you worry about your child's reading? You will learn how children learn to read and how to partner with the school on reading improvement. Do not miss these strategies that help children become good readers!

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](#).

Is Your Child Refusing to Go to School

School avoidance is sometimes called school refusal or school phobia. Children may refuse to attend school or create reasons why they should not go, complaining about not feeling well. School refusal symptoms occur most often in school days, and those symptoms are usually absent on weekends. This article offers guidelines for parents about [school avoidance and how to work with you child to help solve it](#).



Working Together:

Understanding IEP Facilitation in Nevada

When families and schools work together, students benefit the most. Sometimes, though, conversations during an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting can feel challenging, especially when there are strong feelings or differing perspectives. That's where IEP Facilitation can help. Learn more about the [IEP Facilitation](#) and how it works.

Section 504 Plans

To uphold a student's civil rights under Section 504, schools provide accommodations and support to ensure that a student with a disability has what they need to access the opportunities provided to all students. Making sure all students have the same opportunities is called equity, and it's something schools must do. [Read More](#).



What is a Special Education Evaluation?

Sometimes, as parents, it can be difficult to realize that their child may benefit from special education services. It is common to feel overwhelmed, unsure, or even hesitant when faced with this possibility. These emotions are a natural response to wanting the best for our children. With accurate information, support, and guidance, parents can better understand that special education services are not a limitation, but a way to help their child reach their full potential. By learning about available resources and working together with educators, parents can feel more confident supporting their child's education.

A special education evaluation is a process used to understand a child's strengths and needs and to determine if they are eligible for special education services. The evaluation looks at how a child learns, behaves, communicates, and functions in school. The process usually begins when a parent or school requests an evaluation. Parents must give written consent before testing can begin. Typically, Nevada schools have 45 school days after you give your informed written consent to finish the evaluation. Learn more about the [initial evaluation under IDEA-300.301](#). It's important that parents understand [the special education process](#), and to know they have the right to ask questions, share concerns, and request explanations. This [resource](#) provides an overview of the special education process.

Share Your Thoughts: Education Accountability

The purpose of this survey is to gather your suggestions for strengthening Nevada's education accountability system. Broadly, accountability refers to policies and measures used to monitor performance and guide improvement of districts and schools. Your voice is critical. We want to learn from a variety of

groups; all responses are anonymous. Click here to take the [Nevada Accountability Redesign Constituent Survey](#).



Information for Parents about Bullying

Bullying is a serious issue that occurs throughout our schools every day and, without intervention, bullying can lead to serious academic, social, emotional, and legal problems. Bullying can leave deep emotional scars that can last a lifetime. Nevada PEP offers an informative workshop "[Take Steps to Stop Bullying](#)" filled with important information on Bullying. The [Nevada Department of Education](#) has developed a bullying pamphlet in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to help parents understand Nevada Bullying Laws.

Able Account Changes in 2026

There are major changes to ABLE accounts starting January 1, 2026, significantly expanding eligibility by raising the disability onset age from 26 to 46, allowing more adults with disability to qualify and, while also increasing contribution limits. Families can find more information [Nevada Able Accounts](#) and the [National Able Resource Center](#).



Fine Motor Skills

Many of your child's daily activities—like getting dressed, eating, and writing—require control of small muscles in the hands called fine motor skills. Your child can do more things for themselves when they have the opportunity to practice these skills. [This article](#) has some great tips to help your child build fine motor skills at home.

What is Neurodiversity?

Neurodiversity is a term that seems to be everywhere these days. And increasingly, kids and young adults are using it to describe themselves. In

short, it means that there are many differences in the way people's brains work. There's no "correct" or "incorrect" way. Instead, there is a wide range of ways that people perceive and respond to the world. Read more in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Kids Multiplication Math Games

A fun, colorful, and completely free app that helps kids learn multiplication through games, flashcards, and puzzles. Designed for preschoolers through early elementary, it makes math engaging and easy to understand.



App by: [RV AppStudios](#)

Are You Passionate About Helping Families?

[Apply Here](#) for employment opportunities in Las Vegas and Reno, NV.

WE ARE HIRING!

nvpep.org/careers

Nevada PEP is a statewide nonprofit organization serving families of children and youth with disabilities and behavioral health needs by empowering them to be life-long advocates for their children.

- Full Time Positions
- Openings Statewide
- Great Benefits Package



Helping Children Become Good Readers

We have the opportunity to encourage our children to become lifelong readers. Parents can help by reading aloud to their children, providing access to books, and setting aside time each day for reading. Here are [10 ways](#) parents can help build and support a child's love of reading. Don't forget the public libraries are a good place to find books for children of all ages. Click [here for complete list of all public libraries in Nevada](#). Join our [On Demand Webinar - How is My Child Reading?](#) to get more great tips.

Youth MOVE Nevada News

2026 is upon us, and with the start of a new year comes a focus on resolutions and goal setting. For many young people, this can bring anxiety and stress, as well as opportunities for growth. This [video](#) addresses these varying feelings by teaching the SMART method of goal setting. Setting SMART goals is a great way to practice resiliency and learn how to speak up for yourself! If you want to learn more about these topics, join our weekly [youth-led meetings](#) open to young people ages 14–24 across Nevada. We also encourage you to follow us on [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [Facebook](#)!



9 Tips for Parent-Teacher Conferences

Most parent-teacher conferences only last 10 or 15 minutes. That's not a lot of time to connect with your child's teacher. But with a little preparation and planning, you can make the most of this time. Here are [nine tips](#) that can help.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Career & Technical Education (CTE) is a powerful tool for youth with disabilities preparing for employment. Research shows students who concentrate in CTE have higher graduation and employment rates, and work-based learning strongly predicts success after school. Nevada's CTE programs connect students to high-skill, high-wage careers. Learn more at the [Nevada Department of Education CTE hub](#).

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.



Different Ways to Support Nevada PEP

**SUPPORT
NEVADA
PEP**

iGive.com®
Change online shopping for good.

A purple banner with white stars and the text "SUPPORT NEVADA PEP" in large, bold, black letters. Below the text is a white box containing the iGive.com logo and the tagline "Change online shopping for good."

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.



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