

Specially Designed Instruction

What is it and why do we need it?

Special education is “Specially Designed Instruction” (SDI) IDEA defines that term as adapting, as appropriate, to the needs of an eligible student under this part, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction (i) to address the unique needs of the student that result from the student’s disability; and (ii) to ensure access of the student to the general curriculum, so that the student can meet the educational standards within the jurisdiction of the public agency that apply to all children [§300.39 (b)(3)].



Special education, therefore, involves adapting the “content, methodology, or delivery of instruction” [IDEA Regulations, 300.39(b)(3)].

SDI is the instruction delivered to a student with an IEP to help the student access the general education curriculum. SDI goes beyond differentiated instruction and addresses the unique needs that exist because of a student’s disability.

Visit the SDI webpage

[Specially Designed Instruction \(SDI\) \(gadoe.org\)](https://gadoe.org)

Literacy

Literacy resources are located on the GaDOE SDI webpage under Teacher tab and then teacher strategies.

SDI Literacy Chart—Three columns containing area of impact, SDI, and Accommodations/Modifications.

1. Area of Impact— Basic reading, reading comprehension and written expression
2. Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) - What the “teacher does” through instructional practices
3. Accommodations/Modifications— What the student will use to access curriculum and make significant progress

[Specially Designed Instruction - Literacy.pdf \(gadoe.org\)](#)



Specially Designed Instruction Resources

Math

Math resources are located on the GaDOE SDI webpage. Select the Teacher tab, then teacher strategies.

SDI Math Chart—Three columns containing area of impact, SDI, and Accommodations/Modifications.

1. Area of Impact— Math calculation and reasoning
2. Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) - What the “teacher does” through instructional practices
3. Accommodations/Modifications— What the student will use to access curriculum and make significant progress.

[SDI in Math.pdf \(gadoe.org\)](#)

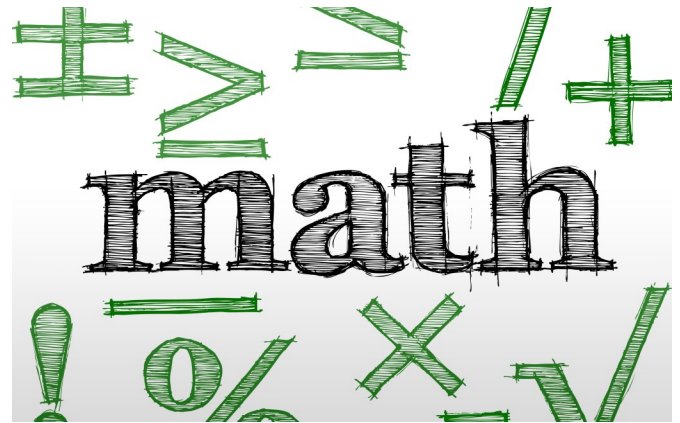
Instructional Planning

The Instructional Learning Plan is designed to provide teachers with an “at-a-glance” snapshot view of a student’s learning profile. This document should contain and highlight each student’s unique learning needs and strengths.

[Individual Learning Plan2023.pdf\(Review\) - Adobe cloud storage](#)

Instructional Planning (Big Four) - items to consider for lesson plan development

[SDI Big Four.docx \(gadoe.org\)](#)



IEP Tip Sheets

IEP tip sheets provide clear definitions and leading questions to use for IEP Development

[PLAAFP IEP \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: Measurable Annual Goals \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[Measuring Progress IEP \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: Overview of the Statement of Services & Aids \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: What are Supplementary Aids & Services? \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: What are Related Services? \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: What is the Statement of Special Education or SDI? \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

[IEP Tip Sheet: What are Program Modifications & Supports? \(promotingprogress.org\)](#)

SDI Resources

Registration

Registration for upcoming professional learning events can be completed through the PL Catalogue. The link is below.

[Events - GaDOE Community](#)

Walk through Observation Form

Utilizing a walkthrough form during observations can assist with identifying instructional strengths and growth areas with the intent to empower educators to actively implement SDI.

[Instruction and Systemic Improvement - SDI Walkthrough Form 10-23.pdf - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Processing Deficits, Accommodations and Specialized Instruction Strategies

[Microsoft Word - Processing Deficits to SDI chart.docx \(gadoe.org\)](#)

FY23 Recordings

Located under Teacher and Administrators tab on the SDI Website

This section contains recorded professional learning sessions and their accompanying. Please visit the Specially Designed Instruction webpage for more recordings.

[SDI for Elementary Educators Session 1 of 4 Recording](#)

[SDI for Administrators and Special Education Directors Session 1 of 4](#)

[For more information or questions contact](#)

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