What is co-teaching?

The special education teacher **AND** the general education teacher provide service to students with disabilities and share **equal teaching responsibilities** for **ALL** students in the general education classroom.

**Co-teaching Best Practices**

- Co-teachers should have a **shared vision** for their classroom and the students within it.
- **Effective co-planning** is essential to ensure that staff expertise is maximized and that all students within the classroom succeed.
- **Specified classroom management and organization** should be agreed upon and implemented consistently.
- Co-teaching teams must use their knowledge of co-teaching models, effective instructional strategies, and individual students needs to ensure that **effective instructional delivery** occurs every day.
- Teachers must utilize **effective monitoring and evaluation** of student learning.
- Co-teaching teams must be committed to a continual focus on **reflection for improvement**.
- **Professional development** must be ongoing and based on the needs of the co-teaching team.

**6 Steps to Successful Co-teaching**

- Take risks and grow
- Formulate a plan and act as a unified team
- Discuss IEP goals and general education goals
- Discuss strengths and weaknesses
- Identify teaching styles and use to create cohesion
- Establish rapport
The following co-teaching series was created in collaboration with the Georgia Learning Resources System and the Georgia Department of Education.

Co-teaching is more than using a model. It’s a partnership to provide substantially different instruction and outcomes for students with two teachers in the room. It is recommended that co-teaching teams participate in the professional learning together.

- **Introduction to Co-Teaching**
  *The Introduction to Co-Teaching Models* module reviews the six common models of Co-teaching and offers pros and cons of each model. It also presents examples of when you might use the different models of Co-teaching. Video examples of each model are presented and activities if using this as a professional learning community.

- **Module 1- Co-Teaching for Student Success**
  The first module, *Co-Teaching for Student Success*, can be used to train co-teaching teams on the fundamentals of co-teaching which will include a review of the six models of co-teaching and the 6-step process for establishing an effective co-teaching partnership.

- **Module 2- Co-Planning for Student Success**
  The second module, *Co-Planning for Student Success* explores practical tips for co-planning such as the use of co-planning agendas, checklists and technology to help co-teachers plan effectively. A sample co-teaching lesson plan template is presented.

- **Module 3- Co-Instructing for Student Success**
  The third module, *Co-Instructing for Student Success* explores instructional strategies to consider when co-planning to improve outcomes for students. The module covers instructional practices that should be utilized with all students as well as specially designed instruction for students with disabilities.

- **Module 4- Co-Assessing for Student Success**
  The fourth module, *Co-Assessing for Student Success* explores ways to make co-teaching more effective by gathering information to guide instruction. This module reviews types of assessments to consider for the diverse needs of students in co-taught classes and how to use the data to improve instruction. This module also provides resources for co-teachers to reflect and self-assess on their co-teaching practices to enhance collaboration.

- **Module 5- Administrators Guide to Co-Teaching**
  The fifth module, *General Supervision: The Role of the Administrator*, can be used to train and inform administrators on general supervision procedures for implementing evidence-based co-teaching practices in their district/school.