



Co-Teaching for Student Success- A Parent Guide



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.*

Benefits of Students Being in a Co-Taught Classroom

Increased social skills and friendships

Increased access to general curriculum

Benefit of Two Expert Teachers and teaching methods

Increased teacher time and attention

Increased independent learning skills and outcomes

Increased appreciation of differences and sense of community

What Does Co-Teaching Look Like?

One Teach, One Observe or Assist	One teacher leads instruction while the other observes and gathers data or circulates the room and provides individual assistance as needed.
Station Teaching	Both teachers divide content and students, Students spend time with both teachers. A third or fourth station may utilize computers and independent or peer tasks.
Parallel Teaching	Both teachers teach the same content, but the class is divided. This allows for differentiation. Teachers alternate groups they work with.
Team Teaching	Both teachers share delivery of instruction. It requires a true teaming approach and the most planning.
Alternate Teaching	One teacher delivers instruction such as vocabulary review while the other teacher delivers content or a lab experiment. Groups swap. This is great for reteaching and acceleration.

Frequently Asked Questions

Which one is my child's teacher? BOTH! Both teachers will work with your child and are responsible for instruction, assessment, and guidance of all students in the room.

What if the pacing is too fast? Because two teachers are in the room, the teachers should provide the individualized supports your child needs to succeed.

How is it decided if my child will be in a co-taught class? This is an IEP team decision. It is one of the service continuums offered when the IEP discusses services.



Georgia Department of Education

Division for Special Education Services and Supports



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What if I have more questions? You can always talk to your child's special education teacher or school administrator. Ask questions and check on your child's progress often.

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. The following is a Co-Teaching Series found on the GaDOE website under Special Education Services and Supports.

- **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. The module covers explicit instruction, specially designed instruction, universal design for learning, high leverage practices and other strategies.*
- **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.*