

## Overview: Comparison of Special Education and Community Centered Boards

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	<b>Special Education Part B</b>	<b>CCB</b>
Founded in	IDEA: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 1975 ensures and guarantees that students with disabilities have the same constitutional right to an education, as do all children. Part A is the general provision. Part B pertains to a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment (LRE) for children and youth. Part C establishes resource centers and intervention services for infants. D is training. E is research. F is instructional media. G is assistive technology. H is early intervention. IDEA will be re-authorized in 2003. Some issues include limited funding (currently federal government funds only 16%), teachers overloaded with paperwork and Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).	CRS 27-10.5 establishes Community Centered Boards (CCBs). CRS stands for Colorado Revised Statutes. CCBs purpose is to deliver community based services. They are responsible for intake, eligibility determination, service plan development, arrangement for services, delivery of services and monitoring. CCBs manage limited resources at the local level to meet individual needs and address overall needs of local service areas. Rules are set forth by Division of Developmental Disabilities, part of the Colorado Department of Human Services. Unlike the school system, it is a not an entitlement program. Eligibility does not guarantee delivery of services. There are long waiting lists for a variety of services and supports. However, anyone with a developmental disability should not hesitate in obtaining immediately (if not already done so) an eligibility date for future purposes.
Eligibility	Part A and B are permanently authorized by Congress. A child with a disability means a child with mental retardation, hearing impairments (including deafness), speech or language impairments, visual impairments (including blindness), serious emotional disturbances, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other impairments or specific learning disabilities; and who need services because of having any of these conditions, special education and related services.	Applicants must meet the Colorado definition of a developmental disability: meaning a disability that is manifested before the person reaches 22 years of age and is attributable to mental retardation or related conditions which include cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or other neurological conditions when such conditions result in impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior similar to that of a person with mental retardation. Ask for detail of the definition through the CCB Case Manager/Resource Coordinator. <u>Enrollment in special education does not guarantee eligibility through the CCB system.</u> A separate application MUST be filed by parent, guardian or self-advocate.
Goals	The focus is on the child/student and his/her educational needs. Additionally, starting at age 14 a transition statement (also in R1	The focus is on the totality of the individual: emotional, cognitive, physical, spiritual and psychological aspects. CCBs

	look for “green sheet”) and plan are put in place. Parents should be reminded that by the time their child turns 18, application for SSI and Medicaid, Colorado ID, guardianship (only if applicable) resume etc. should be accomplished.	offer necessary supports for people with developmental disabilities to have their rightful chance to be included in Colorado community life, make responsible choices, exert control, maintain relationships and a sense of belonging, develop and exercise competencies and talent, and experience personal security, respect and dignity. Programs such as Family Support, Supported Living Services, Comprehensive Services, Children’s Extensive Support are some examples.
Age	Covers age 3-21; eligibility determined by specific categories of disability (see eligibility)	All ages. However, eligibility does not guarantee delivery of services.
Service Coordination	No requirement. However, for students with healthcare issues, the School Medicaid Reimbursement Program operates Medicaid and CHP Plus enrollment in addition to oversight of healthcare needs in the school and community, referred to as Targeted Case Management (TCM). TCM defines case management (CM) services as those services which eligible individuals aged 0-21 can access for needed medical, social, educational and others services.	Case Management/Resource Coordination. An individual enrolled in an active service will always have a case manager, (resource coordinator). Those on waiting lists in the DDRC catchment area have access to case management This includes activities such as eligibility, planning, locating and facilitating access to services, coordinating and reviewing all aspects of needed services, supports and resources in cooperation with the person with developmental disabilities, the person’s family as appropriate, and involved agencies. CM includes monitoring and evaluation of all services and supports.
Services: IEP and IP	Educational services are an entitlement. Special Education and related services are documented in the IEP (Individualized Education Plan). All services are the responsibility of the local school district. School provides all services.	The CCB is the single entry point to receive services and supports under Section 27-10.5 C.R.S. CCBs provide services and supports to such persons <u>based on available funds. They are not an entitlement.</u> Funding comes from federal, state, local governments and private contributions. Services are provided in integrated and non-integrated settings. All service coordination is generated from the Individualized Plan (IP). Services are provided by coordination of a number of agencies, i.e., Mental Health, HUD, DVR etc in addition to the CCB.
Delivery of Services	Special Education and related services to be provided in the “least restrictive environment”.	Active services and supports are provided in the home, community settings, and residential and vocational settings. Case

		management and information and referral (I & R) are available. Most individuals actively enrolled in services are funded through Medicaid programs (95%) although a few are funded strictly through state general funds when an individual is ineligible for Medicaid funded supports/or services. A smaller portion privately pay (see below).
Fees	No cost. Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Entitlement.	No cost, although families and individuals can choose to private pay for some service and supports while on waiting lists.
Receipt of Services	The recipient of special education and related services is the child only.	While services and supports are designed primarily with the individual in mind, the one exception is the Family Support Services program which addresses needs of parents and siblings.
Assessment	Parents may obtain an independent educational evaluation (IEE) at school district expense if they disagree with the accuracy or appropriateness of the school district's assessment unless the district requests a due process hearing to prove the accuracy of the appropriateness of its assessment.	Eligibility assessment is the responsibility of the applicant. Most times school records will have needed information. If an individual is enrolled in active services and supports, assessments are conducted yearly as part of the Individualized Plan (IP).
Procedural Safeguards	Procedural safeguards include prior written notice of meetings; confidentiality of information to examine school district records related to child and obtain copies at reasonable cost; written consent required before initial assessment and placement; extended school year services if child requires them; transition planning; right to decline a service in the IEP without jeopardizing other services; right to have outside evaluations obtained at parent expense considered by IEP team and included in child's record.	Procedural safeguards include prior written notice of meetings; confidentiality of information; right to examine records and obtain copies at reasonable cost; rights and responsibilities guaranteed to all the individuals under law in addition to those listed in the CRS; authorized representative; access to dispute resolution procedures; rights suspension only with individual's/guardian's consent and periodic review of Human Rights Committee; 15 days notice of IP or change of services within the IP; access to grievance and complaint process including associated timelines.
Dispute Resolution	Informal and formal complaint resolution process, mediation, federal complaint, due process, Section 504 Complaint. Attorney's fees incurred for due process hearing or civil action may be awarded to parents under certain circumstances.	Complaint resolution process, mediation, right to appeal and Dispute Resolution. The latter is only applicable in 4 types of cases. See CCB case manager for details and descriptions.