DMUSD Special Education

We offer a full continuum of special education services to eligible students in the least restrictive environment.

In order to be eligible to receive special education services, a student must meet eligibility criteria under one of the qualifying California disability categories. Eligibility and required special education services are determined by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.

Qualifying Disabilities:
- Autism
- Deafness/Hearing Impairment
- Deaf-Blindness
- Emotional Disturbance
- Established Medical Disability (ages 3-5 only)
- Hard of Hearing
- Intellectual Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Other Health Impairment
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Speech and Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Vision Impairment

K-6 Special Education Services & Programs

Alternate Learning Curriculum (ALC)
- Special education teachers provide instruction in foundational academics using an alternate curriculum such as Unique Learning Systems.
  - Located at Del Mar Heights School

Co-teaching Model
- Special educators co-teach core content in the general education classroom with the general education teacher.
  - Located at all schools.

Core Content Instruction (CCI)
- Special education teachers instruct students in core content areas based on grade level standards using a modified curriculum.
  - Located at Ashley Falls School and Sycamore Ridge School

Functional Life Skills (FLS)
- Special education teachers provide highly individualized instruction in functional and applied academics and functional life skills using an alternate curriculum.
  - Located at Sycamore Ridge School

Learning Lab
- Academic support is provided in the learning lab classroom or in the general education classroom.
  - Located at all schools.

Social-Emotional Learning Foundations (SELF)
- Special education teacher provides grade level core content instruction for students requiring therapeutic behavioral and emotional support to access curriculum.
  - Located at Sage Canyon School

Support Services Available at all Schools
- adapted physical education
- behavioral support
- counseling / mental health services
- instructional assistance
- language and speech services
- nursing care
- occupational therapy
- physical therapy
- vision and hearing services

Early Childhood Special Education for Eligible Children 3-5 years old

Preschool-aged students may receive language and speech services at their school of residence.

Early Childhood Functional Life Skills
- Special education staff and teacher provide individualized instruction in developmental and foundational skills.
  - Located at Torrey Hills School

Early Childhood Inclusion
- Inclusive model with early childhood special education teacher and general education preschool teacher providing instruction based on the preschool foundations of learning.
  - Located at Torrey Hills School