

UPDATES AND HIGHLIGHTS**Winter Academy Highlights**

Winter Academy 2026 was a meaningful success for students with disabilities across the district. Held from January 5–9, 2026, the five-day program offered a valuable enrichment opportunity and strong start to the year for thousands of students and families.

The program's success reflects the district's commitment to inclusive, accessible learning experiences for all students.

Work Experience Programs at Career and Transition Centers (CTC)

We are excited to announce that the work experience programs at Career and Transition Centers are underway! Work experience opportunities for students at the CTC provide meaningful pathways to build confidence, independence, and practical work skills. Students gain valuable experience participating in internships, volunteer roles, job shadowing, and paid on-the-job training, where they are exploring various career pathways, developing essential workplace habits, and learning to advocate for their needs. These experiences take place in the community in environments such as schools, community organizations, and local businesses. These partnerships are especially powerful, as they create inclusive learning and working environments where our young adults can thrive, while contributing their unique talents to the workforce.

Explore the Work-Based Learning Newsletter, to find additional information about the work experience programs offered at the CTC, important updates, inspiring stories, and student spotlights. [Click here and enjoy!](#)

DATA & METRICS**Year-to-Date IEP Team Meetings Completed**

- **Timeframe:** July 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026
- **Total IEP Team Meetings Conducted by LAUSD:** 52,270
 - **Excludes:** IEP team meetings held at independent charter schools

Students with Disabilities Enrollment

As of January 31, 2026, there were 76,258 students with disabilities were enrolled in District schools.

PARENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**Division of Special Education Family Resource Fair****Save-the-Date!**

The Division of Special Education (DSE) is excited to announce upcoming Family Resource Fairs taking place in each region. These events are designed to support families of students with disabilities by providing valuable resources, information, and opportunities to connect directly with the DSE teams who support their students.

Families are invited to attend and engage with a wide range of supports available in their region. Please refer to the **linked flyer** for specific dates, times, and locations. This information will also be posted on the Division of Special Education website at <https://sped.lausd.org/>.

In Need of Services to Support Individuals with Disabilities?

Regional Center and Department of Rehabilitation are organizations that provide individualized services and supports for individuals with disabilities. Each organization offers an array of supports and services that will assist your child in making a successful transition from school to adulthood.

Contact the Regional Center or Department of Rehabilitation in your area for more information.

Regional Center Look-Up <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/lookup-rcts-by-county/>

Department of Rehabilitation Find An Office

<https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/FindAnOffice>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING FOR STAFF

Ongoing Supports for Paraprofessionals

As part of the Banked Tuesday professional development plan, the Division of Special Education Operations, in partnership with division teams, has hosted 18 Special Education Drop-In Clinics for paraprofessionals during the 2025–2026 school year. Approximately 2,900 participants have received targeted support on classroom practices, behavior strategies, role clarity, and district-aligned resources. Drop-In Clinics will continue through the remainder of the school year, with 15 additional sessions scheduled.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

There are no legislative updates at this time.

RESOURCES / UPCOMING EVENTS / REMINDERS

CAC Elections

The Division of Special Education and the Office of Student, Family, and Community Engagement will hold elections for the 2026–2028 term during the month of March. The elections will be conducted virtually, with in-person tech support available at the SFACE office and in each region. CAC members are asked to share information widely within their schools and communities.

CAC Members and Alternates

This is a friendly reminder that CAC Alternate positions are one-year terms. CAC members who wish to continue serving on the CAC must be elected under the membership category for which they are currently eligible. Additionally, members serving a 2024–2026 term whose term is expiring and who are interested in continuing their membership must also follow the same election guidelines.

Please refer to the CAC Bylaws for detailed information regarding terms of membership, eligibility requirements, and position descriptions. If you have any questions, please reach out to SFACE for assistance via email at families@lausd.net or calling 213-241-3350.

LAUSD Adult Transition Programs

Have a student in 12th grade at the local High School between the ages of 18–22 yrs.? Check out the Adult Transition Programs offered at the Career and Transition Centers (CTC)!

Career and Transition Centers (CTC) provide the next step after High School for students ages 18–22 yrs. who are participating on the Modified Core Curriculum. Students enrolled at the CTC receive independent living skills instruction, vocational training, employment preparation, and community-based instruction, with a goal of maximizing your students' level of independence, while preparing them for the world of work. Post-secondary educational options are also available!

Students interested in the Adult Transition Programs offered at the CTC will be;

- Ages 18–22 yrs.
- Participate on the Modified Core Curriculum
- Completed 4 years of High School

For more information, visit the Division of Special Education Adult Transition webpage at <https://sped.lausd.org/apps/pages/adulttransition>

Transition Trainings & Webinars for Parents/Families

Transition to Adult Services Conference hosted by Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center. Lanterman Regional Center will offer 3 conference zoom sessions and an in-person resource fair that will provide valuable information on support and services that will assist students, parents, and families with a successful transition from school to adulthood. Translation services will be available. Please see the attached flyers for additional information. [*Registration is Required*](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/TZa5HewRQyKt2rFgLdpGoA>

For additional information about LAUSD Adult Transition Program, feel free to contact;

- James Koontz, Coordinator, Modified Core Curriculum
jck6411@lausd.net
- Nicole Douglas, Specialist, Adult Transition Programs- Regions East/South
nld1336@lausd.net
- David Montalvo, Specialist, Adult Transition Programs- Regions North/West
dxm1609@lausd.net

Call to Action: Support IDEA Pledge for Increased Federal Funding

Los Angeles Unified is inviting parents to sign a pledge calling on Congress to support federal special education funding. Signing the pledge allows parents to lend their support to communications to Congress and other collective action advocating for the full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). To join the pledge, parents may submit this [form](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Phone Number	Website / Email
Division of Special Education School & Family Support Services	213-241-6701	https://sped.lausd.org email: spedsfss@lausd.net
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement	213-481-3350	https://families.lausd.org/ email: families@lausd.net
LAUSD General Hotline	213-431-4300	https://www.lausd.org/
LAUSD Mental Health Hotline	213-241-3840	https://www.lausd.org/Page/12120
Parent Portal	213-481-3350	https://lausdapp.lausd.net/auth/landing
Tutoring for Individualized Student Learning	213-241-2973	https://tutoring.lausd.org/ Contact Form: https://tutoring.lausd.org/apps/form/contactus
Technology Access	213-443-1300	https://its.lausd.org/ If calling, select a language. 1 = English 2= Spanish After language selection, press: 1 = Passwords 5 = Tutoring