

Section 10 Glossary of Commonly Used Terms

ACA	Affordable Care Act is the name of President Obama’s national healthcare act- passed in March 2010. It is also known as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. www.healthcare.gov
Acute	A description of a disease, condition or illness that comes on quickly, and is short-lived, but can require urgent and/or emergency care.
Advocate	An advocate is someone that speaks or pleads in behalf of others. As parents, we are our child’s best advocate.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act – A federal law which prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment, State and local government services, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation. www.ada.gov
Assessment	A way of collecting information about a child’s needs, strengths, and interests, can be done with different testing and evaluation tools.
Care Coordination	Services are provided in a manner that the family’s lifestyle is interrupted as little as possible, and the family’s and child’s needs are met.
Case Manager	A person who works with the family to plan for services and who coordinates many service providers. They can also be called a Service Coordinator.
Chronic	A description of a persistent and long-lasting disease and/or health condition which usually lasts more than three months. It can be on-going -sometimes throughout a persons’ life. The opposite of chronic is acute.
Community-Based	High quality services necessary to meet the daily needs of the child and his/her family located near their home.
Confidentiality	Your child’s rights to privacy, which mean their records and information, will be shared only with people directly involved in your child’s care, (i.e. medical or educational providers, etc.).
CSH	Children’s Special Health - A state program to assist children who have special health care needs.

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DDD	Developmental Disabilities (Division), a Division of the WY Department of Health, which now, through reorganization, is under the Behavioral Health Division and called Developmental Disabilities Section. www.health.wyo.gov/DDD/index.html
Diagnosis	The identification of the nature and cause of symptoms, often providing the name of a condition or illness.
Disability	The result of any physical or mental condition that affects a person's ability to develop, achieve or function.
Discharge Planning	A plan for continuing care after your child has a hospital stay. Another goal of discharge planning is to help the health care team make sure your child has the resources that he/she needs in their community.
DFS	Department of Family Services, a state governmental agency. www.dfsweb.state.wy.us
DME	Durable Medical Equipment - Health care equipment that can be used over and over again (e.g., hospital beds, ventilators, I.V. Poles, wheelchairs, and walkers).
EDHI	(WY) Early Hearing Detection and Intervention is designed to ensure that all infants, toddlers and preschoolers with hearing loss are identified as early as possible and provided with timely and appropriate follow up and intervention. www.wyomingehdi.org
EI	Early Intervention – is a range of services design to intervene during early stages of an infant and toddlers development to enhance their development to minimize their potential for developmental delays.
Eligible	Meeting specific requirements to qualify for a program or service.
EPSDT	Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment is the child health component of Medicaid. Required in every state, it is designed to improve the health of low-income children, by financing appropriate and necessary pediatric services. www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Benefits/Early-Periodic-Screening-Diagnosis-and-Treatment.html
Evaluation	A way of collecting information about a child's needs, strengths, and interests.

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Family-Centered Care	Services are delivered in a way that respects the central role of the family as caregiver, advocate, and decision-maker for the child.
Genetic Disease or Disorder	A disease that passes by gene from parent to child.
Health Care Professionals	Workers who have healthcare skills (Including nurses, doctors, social workers, physical therapists, pharmacists, and so on).
Healthlink	Healthlink is an online application and screening tool for Medicaid and Kid Care CHIP health insurance programs. https://healthlink.wyo.gov
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization - A medical insurance program which gives care through specified doctors and hospitals. Members pay a fixed prepaid premium.
IDEA	Stands for <i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004</i> , the federal law for specially designed supports and related services (special education) in schools. A student must meet specific criteria, covering a broad range of different disabling conditions, to qualify for IDEA supports and services to help them benefit from their education. http://IDEA.ed.gov
IEP	Individualized Education Program – a plan developed by a team which includes the family and the child as appropriate, for each student, according to their individual needs. The IEP is required by law for all students receiving special education services. It outlines your child’s educational goals and any services or supports your child needs to meet those goals.
IFSP	Individual Family Service Plan - A written plan for children with disabilities from birth to 3 years old and their family. Developed with the family and the team, the IFSP outlines services and goals of the family. It can include services from human services departments and public and private agencies. www.health.wyo.gov/ddd/earlychildhood/index.html
IHP	Individualized (School) Health Plan is a formal written agreement developed by a team of school staff, in partnership with the student’s family, the student, and the student’s health care provider(s).
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment - This means a child with special needs is educated as much as possible with children who do not have special needs. The school program must meet all of the child’s educational needs in the most appropriate setting as decided upon by the IEP team. Other words used for LRE are “Mainstream”, “Integration”, and “Inclusion”.

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MFH / MCH	Maternal and Family Health is a section of the WY Department of Health that provides leadership to ensure all Wyoming Women, Children and Families, including those with special health care needs, have access to prevention services and public health programs to create a strong foundation for optimal lifelong health. In other states it is often called Maternal and Child Health (MCH). www.health.wyo.gov/familyhealth/index.html
Medical Home	Medical home is a partnership of pediatric health care team, the child and the child's families to assure all the medical and non-medical needs of the patient are met. It is not an abuilding, house, hospital or home healthcare service, but rather an approach to provide comprehensive primary care that is family-centered. www.medicalhomeinfo.org
OT	Occupational Therapy - Treatment to help a person develop mental or physical skills to aid in daily living. It focuses on hand and finger movement, and self-help skills such as dressing or using a fork and spoon.
PIC	Parent Information Center is Wyoming's statewide parent training and information center that provides support, training and referrals to families of children with disabilities and helps them navigate through the maze of special education services under the IDEA. www.wpic.org
Pediatric	A branch of medicine dealing with the care of children.
Pediatric Specialist	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A pediatrician who has a specialty area of knowledge and skills. Examples are pediatric oncologist and neonatologist. 2. A physician specialist who completed special training to treat children. The physician could be a pediatric surgeon, pediatric anesthesiologist or a pediatric urologist, for example.
Pediatrician	A doctor who specializes in the care of children.
PHN	Public Health Nurse
Primary Care Provider	A physician or clinician whose practice focuses upon internal medicine, family/general practice, pediatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology.
PT	Physical Therapy – is treatment of physical disabilities – usually gross motor- by a physical therapist. It includes the use of massage and exercise to help the person improve the use of bones, muscles, joints, and nerves.

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PL	Public Law - Federal law that is passed. The number that follows “PL” identifies the law, (i.e. PL 101-476).
Respite (Pronounced RES-pit.)	Care for a limited time, in which a family gets a much needed “break” from caring for their child with special needs.
Service Coordinator	A person who works with the family to plan for services and who communicates with many service providers (Also called Case Manager).
SSI	Supplemental Security Income - A cash assistance federal program that pays benefits to children with disabilities under age 18 whose families have limited income or resources. You can get more information by calling 1-800-772-1213 or www.ssa.gov/pgm/ssi.htm
Special Needs	A term used to describe persons with one or more mental, emotional, or physical conditions that limit their capacity to participate in normal activities.
Title V	Title V of the Social Security Act is the federal law that provides funding in a block grant to each state to ensure the health and welfare of woman and children. In Wyoming, services provided through MFH are funded through the Title V block grant as well as the state general fund. www.amchp.org/abouttitlev/pages/default.aspx
WIC	Women, Infants and Children is a Special Supplemental Program through the Department of Family Services which provides food and nutrition education to prevent or correct malnutrition in pregnant women, new mothers and children up to age five. The program also screens for other health problems and makes referrals to other health and social services. www.health.wyo.gov/familyhealth/wic/index.html
WY F2F	Wyoming Family to Family Health Information Center is a family-run, family- directed statewide center that supports families of children and youth with special health care needs in finding, understanding and accessing healthcare services and public insurance programs for their children. www.wpic.org/WYF2FHIC

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