

WDE SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

Wyoming Department of Education
 122 W. 25th St., Ste. E200
 Cheyenne, WY 82002
 307-777-7675

Division/Agency	Resources	Contact Information
2-1-1	<p>Launched in February 2011, Wyoming 2-1-1 is a statewide helpline and website which provides free, confidential, health and human services information and referral. By dialing 2-1-1 or visiting the website from anywhere in the state of Wyoming, people are linked to information about local resources, from both government and nonprofit agencies.</p> <p>Wyoming 2-1-1 supports all health and social service providers' plans to be adaptive, flexible and responsive to the needs of people in Wyoming.</p>	<p>https://wy211.communityos.org/</p>
Accommodations	<p>Accommodations are supports that are provided to a child throughout the school day (for both instruction and assessment) that do not significantly alter what is being taught or how he/she participates in school activities. Accommodations are intended to “level the playing field” by reducing or even eliminating the effects of a student’s disability.</p>	<p>Kascinda Fleming kascinda.fleming@wyo.gov 307-777-7489</p> <p>https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/special-programs/accommodations/</p>
Alternate Assessment	<p>WY-ALT (grades 3 – 10)</p> <p>The Wyoming Alternate Assessment (WY-ALT) is given once per year to students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3-10 in ELA and mathematics and in grades 4, 8, and 10 in science.</p>	<p>Kascinda Fleming kascinda.fleming@wyo.gov 307-777-7489</p> <p>https://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/2019/WY-ALT-FAQ.pdf</p>
COVID-19 Resources	<p>The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) is working closely with the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) and other agencies to monitor COVID-19 (commonly called coronavirus) activity.</p> <p>School districts should work directly with their local community health department to establish protocols to control the spread of COVID-19 and educate their employees and students on prevention. Districts may also contact the WDH at wdh.covid19@wyo.gov.</p>	<p>https://edu.wyoming.gov/educators/covid-19-resources/</p> <p>This page will be updated frequently; check back often for updates.</p>

<p>Deaf/Hard of Hearing Outreach Services (DHH)</p>	<p>Mission: To improve the quality of life for students impacted by hearing loss through training, support, and guidance to families and all related professionals whose endeavor it is to empower all children who are deaf or hard of hearing to reach their full potential.</p> <p>Outreach Staff Services: Outreach for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing provides consultative services through instructional leadership by providing training, support and guidance to all Wyoming school districts, child development centers and community members.</p> <p>https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/outreach-services/outreach-services-for-deafhard-of-hearing/</p>	<p>Billie Wortham billie.wortham@wyo.gov</p>
<p>Dispute Resolution</p>	<p>Dispute resolution processes are guaranteed to Wyoming families of children age 3 to 21 under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and federal regulations 34 C.F.R. §§300.151 through 154, §§300.506 through 300.508, and Chapter 7 Wyoming Education Rules governing Children with Disabilities. The Wyoming Department of Education is required by state rule and federal regulations to investigate alleged violations of the IDEA. Dispute resolution options are explained to parents in The Notice of Procedural Safeguards Brochure provided at least annually to parents of children ages 3-21 by local education agencies.</p> <p>When disputes arise regarding educational services for children with disabilities, an impartial system is available to resolve disputes in an equitable manner. The Wyoming system includes the processes required by the IDEA: Mediation, State Complaint and Due Process Hearing. The National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education created a Quick Guide to Special Education Dispute Resolution Processes to explain dispute resolution processes.</p> <p>All mediation, state complaint, and due process requests may be filed with WDE by mail or fax to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">State Director of Special Education Wyoming Department of Education Special Education Programs Division 122 W. 25th St. Suite E200 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 800-228-6194 FAX: 307-777-6234</p>	<p>Dispute Resolution Coordinator Jordan Brock 307-777-2961 jordan.brock@wyo.gov</p> <p>Administrative Assistant Jennifer Duncan 307-777-3530 jennifer.duncan@wyo.gov</p>

Early Intervention	<p>Wyoming's Early Intervention and Education Program provides screenings and services to help children get on track to a successful future. Services are available for children ages 0 – 5. Across the state, there are 14 child development centers to assist children and families.</p>	<p>Kathy Escobedo, Unit Manager Behavior Health Division 122 West 25th Street Herschler 2 West, Suite B Cheyenne, WY 82002 https://health.wyo.gov/behavioralhealth/early-intervention-education-program-eiep/ 307-777-6972 Fax: 307-777-5580</p>
Kindergarten Transition	<p>Transition into Kindergarten is a pivotal time in the life of a child and his/her family. Smooth and effective transition practices can have a lasting effect throughout a child's educational experience and later into higher education and/or employment. Collaborative efforts between the preschool, school district, and family is key to ensuring a successful transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten Transition Summit Training 2019-2020 • Kindergarten Transition Planning Guide • Kindergarten Transition Summit Activity Guide • Early Childhood Research and Policy Briefs • Effects of Early Adversity on Children's Transitions • Four C's of Transition • Kindergarten Transition Best Practices • Preschool to Kindergarten Checklist • Self-Assessment Tool for Effective Transition from Prekindergarten to Kindergarten 	<p>Deana Smith deana.smith@wyo.gov 307-777-5326 https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/pre-k-to-kindergarten-transition-summit/</p>
Kinship Connections of Wyoming	<p>Kinship Connections of Wyoming is a free service to grandparents, relatives and other caregivers who are raising children that are not their own.</p> <p>We know that the gift you are giving to the children you are caring for can be extremely rewarding but also very challenging. It is our goal to minimize stressors through support and advocacy.</p>	<p>https://wykinshipconnections.org/#:~:text=Kinship%20Connections%20of%20Wyoming%20is,rewarding%20but%20also%20very%20challenging</p>

<p>Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)</p>	<p>Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) MTSS is a multi-step process of providing instruction and support to promote the academic and behavioral success of all children. Individual children's progress is monitored and results are used to make decisions about further instruction and intervention.</p> <p>Data Based Individualization (DBI) Data Based Individualization (DBI) is a framework for intensive intervention, using data to determine when and how to provide more intensive intervention. Throughout the DBI process, progress monitoring data is used to evaluate a student's response to intervention.</p>	<p>Thom Jones thom.jones@wyo.gov 307-777-6376</p>
<p>Parent Information Center (PIC)</p>	<p>What We Offer...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual support • Technical assistance • Support at IEP's • Information & Resources <p>The Parent Information Center also provides information and resources: Newsletters / e-newsletters Parent Rights Handbooks on Special Education and infant/ toddler programs Disability brochures, in English & Spanish Annual Parent Conference & Regional Workshops/Trainings</p> <p>Parents Helping Parents of Wyoming PHP's mission is to help families of children with and without disabilities become more active in their children's growth, learning and education to increase children's school success and greater independence in life. http://www.wpic.org/services-resources</p>	<p>Parent Information Center 2232 Dell Range Blvd, Suite 204 Cheyenne, WY 82009 307-684-2277 www.wpic.org or info@wpic.org</p> <p>Executive Director: Erin Swilling 307-253-8934 eswilling@wpic.org</p> <p>Outreach Parent Liaison: Juanita Bybee 307-217-2244 jbybee@wpic.org Covers: Buffalo, Sheridan, & Gillette area</p>
<p>Secondary Transitions</p>	<p>Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), transition planning from school to adult life begins, at the latest, during high school. Transition planning is required, by law, to start once a student reaches 16 years of age, or younger, if appropriate. This transition planning becomes formalized as part of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).</p> <p>Transition services are intended to prepare students to make the transition from the world of school to the world of adulthood. In planning what type of transition services a student needs to prepare for adulthood, the IEP team must first consider areas such as vocational training, community employment and post-secondary education for the student. If the IEP team thinks that independent living and community participation are appropriate for a student then these areas should also be considered.</p>	<p>Submit your request for assistance online or call: 307-777-3530</p> <p>https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/additional-resources/transition/</p>

<p>Special Education</p>	<p>The Wyoming Special Education Programs Division provides leadership and support for educators, parents, and students with disabilities receiving special education and related services throughout Wyoming schools, Child Development Centers, and communities. It is our goal to improve educational and functional outcomes for the students and families we serve. In addition, the Division has oversight responsibilities for the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for public schools and Child Development centers across the State.</p>	<p>Special Education Programs Division Director: Margee Robertson 307-777-2870 margee.robertson@wyo.gov</p> <p>https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/special-programs/</p>
<p>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Ombudsman Program (SAMHOP)</p>	<p>Get the support you need. Do you need help accessing available resources, addressing concerns about substance abuse and mental health services, or knowing your rights? Our Ombudsman program can help. Our goal is to improve the quality of life for persons in need of substance abuse and/or mental health services in Wyoming.</p> <p>An advocate seeks to ensure that people are able to speak out, to express their views and defend their rights. Advocacy is a process of supporting and empowering people to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • express their viewpoints and concerns • access information, resources and services • explore options and choices • promote and defend their rights 	<p>http://www.wyoquardianship.org/lifeManagement/samhop.html</p>
<p>UPLIFT Wyoming</p>	<p>UPLIFT is a statewide advocacy agency that encourages success and stability for children and youth with or at risk of emotional, behavioral, learning, developmental, or physical disorders at home, school, and in the community.</p>	<p>3701 Ridge Rd. Cheyenne, WY 82001 https://www.upliftwy.org/ 307-778-8686</p>
<p>Vision Outreach Services</p>	<p>Vision Outreach Services (formerly known as Services for the Visually Impaired) works to address the unique needs of students/clients with visual impairments by building capacity of the agencies and individuals who support them through research-based best practices* (*outlined in the Expanded Core Curriculum of the National Agenda for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Including Multiple Disabilities).</p> <p>https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/special-programs/vision-outreach-services/#:~:text=Vision%20Outreach%20Services%20(formerly%20known,Expanded%20Core%20Curriculum%20of%20the</p> <p>https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/outreach-services/vision-outreach-services/</p>	<p>Vision Outreach Services Program Manager: Leslie Bechtel Van Orman 307-857-9267 leslie.vanorman@wyo.gov</p> <p>Administrative Assistant Jackie Miller 307-857-9268 jackie.miller@wyo.gov</p>

<p>Vocational Rehabilitation Division</p>	<p>The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services is committed to helping people with disabilities establish and reach vocational goals that help them become productive working citizens. During any given year, the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services - Vocational Rehabilitation Division actively works with more than 4,000 of Wyoming's citizens with disabilities, and, on average, approximately 700 of those citizens successfully complete a rehabilitation program and enter the workforce.</p>	<p>http://wyomingworkforce.org/workers/vr/</p>
<p>Web-based Academic and Vision and Excellence Symposium (WAVES)</p>	<p>The Wyoming Department of Education is offering free professional development with PTSB/STARS credit available for each session. To register for upcoming sessions or to view archived sessions, please check these links: Wyoming Department of Education PD Wyoming Instructional Network</p>	<p>Deana Smith deana.smith@wyo.gov O: 307-777-5326 C: 307-256-4019</p>
<p>Wyoming Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities (WAPSD)</p>	<p>The Wyoming Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities (WAPSD) functions as an advisory agent to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on special education issues. This panel consists of stakeholders, business and professional entities, teachers, school administrators, state governmental agencies and parents from across Wyoming whose responsibility it is to be a liaison between their regions and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on issues and concerns of those involved with the education of students with disabilities.</p>	<p>Panel Secretary: Jennifer Duncan jennifer.duncan@wyo.gov 307-777-3530 https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/special-programs/wapsd/#:~:text=About%20the%20Program,Instruction%20on%20special%20education%20issues</p>

<p>Wyoming Afterschool Alliance</p>	<p>The Wyoming Afterschool Alliance (WYAA) was created June 12, 2007 to support and promote quality, education-based out of school time (OST) programs that positively impact Wyoming’s youth and families. WYAA is a linchpin, connecting afterschool providers to the necessary resources, technical assistance and training opportunities.</p> <p>WYAA is part of the National Network of Statewide Afterschool networks funded through the C.S. Mott Foundation.</p> <p>High-Quality Afterschool/Out-of-School Time (OST) Programs support successful outcomes for youth by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical and psychological safety and security • Structure that is developmentally appropriate, with clear expectations for behavior • Opportunities to make decisions, participate in rule-making and take on leadership roles • Emotional and moral support • Opportunities to learn how to form close, durable human relationships • A sense of belonging and value • Opportunities to build and master skills • Strong links between families, schools and broader community resource 	<p>https://wyafterschoolalliance.org/</p>
<p>Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR)</p>	<p>Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR) staff is available to answer questions for individuals with disabilities, family members, employers, service providers, educators and anyone needing more information about assistive technology (AT). WATR provides this service at no cost through use of a toll-free number, e-mail, videoconferencing technology, or in-person meetings. Typical questions involve identifying AT device options, providing strategies for working with agencies, or discussing funding avenues. WATR responds to individual AT requests through research, using existing products or devices in our assistive technology loan library, offering WATR services, and by linking individuals to outside resources.</p>	<p>Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources Wyoming Institute for Disabilities 1000 E. University Ave., Dept. 4298 Laramie, WY 82071 307-766-6187 888-989-9463 watr@uwyo.edu</p>
<p>Wyoming Children’s Law Center</p>	<p>WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO SOLVE PROBLEMS We provide legal services at free or reduced rates to protect children’s safety and well-being by working with families, schools, and the courts for commonsense solutions. We do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offering holistic services to help families find non-legal alternatives to solve problems and exit the legal system. ▪ Providing direct legal assistance and support for children or their families in crisis in juvenile court, adult court, domestic court, schools and more. ▪ We offer mediation, parent planning & other guidance, supervised visitation and other custody related issues 	<p>https://www.wyoclc.org/</p>

Wyoming Early Childhood Professional Learning Collaborative (WYECPLC)	<p>The mission of the Wyoming Early Childhood Professional Learning Collaborative is to elevate the early childhood field in Wyoming by providing high impact professional learning opportunities to educators working with young children and families. This site also features a Learning Library and Voices from the Village (podcast) offering a plethora of early childhood learning topics.</p>	<p>822 W. 23rd Street Cheyenne, WY 82001</p> <p>307-772-9062 nikb@uwyo.edu</p>
Wyoming Families for Hands and Voices	<p>Wyoming Families for Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology. Our outreach activities, parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy efforts are focused on assisting Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing children to reach their highest potential.</p> <p>The goal of Wyoming Families for Hands & Voices is to form a comprehensive group of parents and professionals that work together to benefit children and families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We want to provide Wyoming families with the necessary resources, networking and information in order to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children.</p>	<p>https://www.wyhandsandvoices.org/#:~:text=Wyoming%20Families%20For%20Hands%20%26%20Voices,in%20reaching%20their%20fullest%20potential</p>
Wyoming Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities	<p>Our purpose is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in and have access to needed community services, individualized supports and other forms of assistance that promote independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.</p> <p>State Councils on Developmental Disabilities operate under Public Law 106-402, 106th Congress: The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 work to address identified needs for individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their families.</p>	<p>https://wgodd.wyo.gov/</p>
Wyoming Guardianship Corporation	<p>WGC Mission Statement: Wyoming Guardianship Corporation seeks to improve quality of life for people in need by building partnerships and providing life and financial management services in Wyoming communities.</p> <p>Our Philosophy: WGC uses person-centered planning as an approach in all of its programming and person-centered services are a pervasive part of WGC's culture. WGC understands that people want to remain in their home communities.</p>	<p>http://www.wyoguardianship.org/</p>

<p>Wyoming Independent Living</p>	<p>Wyoming Independent Living, Inc. (WIL) is dedicated to the philosophy that every person, regardless of disability, deserves to experience dignity, safety, health and personal independence.</p> <p>Services provided by WIL staff are consumer-oriented and individualized based on your personal goals. All programs are designed to enhance mobility, increase the ability to care for yourself, to communicate and to live independently in the community of your choice.</p> <p>Core Services provided without cost include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and Referral • Independent Living Skills Training • Cross Disability Peer Support • Advocacy (Individual and Systemic) • Transition Services 	<p>https://www.wilr.org/</p>
<p>Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND)</p>	<p>The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) is an academic unit in the College of Health Sciences and a University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). WIND works to assist individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, professionals, and University of Wyoming students through education, training, community services, and early intervention. The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities envisions a Wyoming where all people can participate in everyday community life as they choose.</p> <p>Mission: The mission of the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) is to assist individuals with developmental and other disabilities and their families by promoting and supporting full community inclusion, community membership, independence, productivity and social participation. Over the next five years (2017-2022), WIND will strive to improve outcomes for individuals in the areas of health and wellness, education, early intervention, employment and assistive technology.</p>	<p>Wyoming Institute for Disabilities Dept. 4298; 1000 E. University Ave. Laramie, WY 82071 uwind@uwyo.edu 307-766-2761 888-989-9463 TTY: 800-908-7011</p>
<p>Wyoming Instructional Network</p>	<p>The Project WIN website is a project of the Wyoming Department of Education, Division of Special Education Programs to provide information about special education resources, evidence-based instructional practices, professional development and other events to educators, families and other agencies. The website is funded by a State Personnel Development Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).</p>	<p>Submit your request for assistance online or call: 307-777-3530</p> <p>https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/</p>

<p>Wyoming Kids First</p>	<p>Wyoming Kids First is a statewide nonprofit that primarily works on behalf of children up to eight years of age. We help families, communities and Wyoming identify and meet the needs of children at this critical age in their development by connecting services, supports, and resources around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family Support & Strengthening ▪ Early Learning ▪ Health <p>We also take extra steps to ensure our early childhood workforce has access to high quality training. This is just one example of the outreach our organization provides to create a community landscape that will nurture your children's healthy growth and development.</p> <p>Contact us to learn more about our work.</p>	<p>PO Box 1735 Casper Casper, WY 82601 307-575-2443 https://wyokidsfirst.org/</p>
<p>Wyoming Protection & Advocacy System, Inc.</p>	<p>Wyoming Protection & Advocacy System, Inc. (P&A), established in 1977, is the official non-profit corporation authorized to provide protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.</p>	<p>Address: 7344 Stockman St. Cheyenne, WY 82009 307-632-3496 https://www.wypanda.com/</p>
<p>WY Quality Counts</p>	<p>WY Quality Counts' mission is to raise awareness about why quality child care matters for Wyoming's children, their families and our future. The program promotes quality education opportunities, preparing children for success by using developmentally-appropriate teaching methods and materials to develop cognitive, language, social/emotional and motor skills. WY Quality Counts also provides funding for professionals in early childhood education.</p>	<p>Denise Steele Program Manager 307-777-2439 https://wyqualitycounts.org/</p> <p>Department of Workforce Services WY Quality Counts 5221 Yellowstone Rd. Cheyenne, WY 82009</p>