



CCD 2024 Education Task Force Annual Report

1. Brief Task Force Description or Mission Statement

The Education Task Force monitors federal legislation and regulations that address the educational needs of children and youth with disabilities, their families and their educators under key federal laws such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). We promote high expectations and protect the civil rights and educational opportunities for children with disabilities under these and other laws.

2. Three Issues the Task Force Worked on in 2024

- a. The Task Force developed recommendations for Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations.
- b. The Task Force advocated for stronger federal enforcement of state waiver requests to exceed the 1% cap on the number of students taking Alternative Assessments on Alternate Achievement Standards which can significantly impact student access to the regular classroom and general curriculum.
- c. The Task Force responded to numerous requests for comments on proposed rules, guidance documents, and requests for information—including on mental health supports for students with disabilities, the Augustus Hawkins Centers of Excellence Program, Apprenticeship Programs, and the Civil Rights Data Collection.

3. Three Issues the Task Force Anticipates Working on in 2025

- a. The Task Force will monitor and proactively weigh in on bills related to higher education, career and technical education, workforce, school vouchers, and school climate; ensuring that legislation protects and promotes the civil rights and educational opportunities of students with disabilities.

- b. The Task Force will develop recommendations and advocate for additional funding for all education programs and research that impacts students with disabilities, their families and their educators.
- c. The Task Force will work to develop relationships and educate incoming Administration and House and Senate Committee leaders on the myriad issues affecting students with disabilities.

2024 Task Force Co-Chairs

Laura Kaloi, Assistive Technology Industry Association, CAST, Center for Learner Equity, and the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

Lindsay Kubatzky, National Center for Learning Disabilities

Robyn Linscott, The Arc

Stephanie Flynt McEben, National Disability Rights Network

Kim Musheno, Autism Society of America

5. Task Force Meeting Day of the Month and Meeting Time (Eastern)

Second Friday of each month at 12:30 pm