DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY (DoDEA) -
The headquarters level of the organization which oversees school programs for dependents of Department of Defense employees. This organization is responsible for overseas programs (Department of Defense Dependents Schools) and domestic programs (Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS (DoDDS) -
The component of DoDEA which is responsible for the education of Department of Defense dependents who are residing in overseas locations.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DOMESTIC DEPENDENT ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (DDESS) -
The component of DoDEA which is responsible for the education of Department of Defense dependents who are residing on a military installation in the United States (including territories, commonwealths, and possessions of the United States).

CASE MANAGER -
An educator who is responsible for the processing of students through the procedural process. Case managers lead the multidisciplinary team and are responsible for monitoring the procedural events through your child’s special education career.

CASE STUDY COMMITTEE (CSC) -
This group of professionals and parents is responsible for completing the special education procedural process in a thorough and timely manner. In addition, they are responsible for designing the special education services and making decisions about a student’s placement. Membership of the CSC, throughout your child’s special education eligibility years, may change depending upon the purpose of a particular meeting.

CHILD FIND -
An outreach program which locates and identifies children and young adults from birth through age 21 years who may be in need of special education and related services.

EARLY INTERVENTION -
The Early Intervention Program exists for infants and toddlers from birth through age 2 years. Intervention services are offered to families whose children are identified as having developmental delays. This program is the responsibility of the military branches. More information can be obtained from your Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator or medical treatment facility.

EVALUATION -
The process of collecting information for a child in order that the CSC can determine if the student has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services the student requires.

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP) -
A program which exists in all military branches. It provides for the enrollment and screening of military families who have exceptional family members when they transfer from one assignment to another. Enrollment in the appropriate EFMP is mandatory for all members of the military if a member of their family meets enrollment criteria.
FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION (FAPE) -
A mandated requirement that children and youth with disabilities receive a public education appropriate to their needs at no cost to their families.

INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP) -
A written plan which outlines the special education programs and services which will be provided to meet the unique needs of a special education student. An IEP must be reviewed on an annual basis. More frequent reviews may be conducted, when necessary.

INDIVIDUALIZED TRANSITION PLAN (ITP) -
A plan designed to provide for the transition of special education students, ages 14 years and older, into post-secondary life. It is a written plan which addresses work, training, and education, as well as adult living. The ITP is included as part of a student's IEP, beginning at age 14 years.

LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT (LRE) -
The educational setting that permits a student with disabilities to have maximum contact with non-disabled peers while meeting the student’s special education needs.

PRESCHOOL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (PSCD) -
PSCD providers offer special education and related services to children between the ages of 3 through 5 years after they have been determined eligible for special education services. Procedures should be in place at each location for a transition between the early intervention program and the PSCD when the child approaches his third birthday.