



## Appendix E: State-Level Resources for Special Needs

The following list includes frequently sought state-level public and private organizations that address special needs and information on how to access them in each state. For a more comprehensive listing of agencies within each state that provide disability-related information and services, visit the website of the National Information Center for Children with Disabilities <http://www.nichcy.org/>. (Click on State Resources and then select your state)

### **State Directors of Special Education**

The National Association of State Directors of Special Education maintains up-to-date contact information for all states and territories on its website [www.nasdse.org/](http://www.nasdse.org/). Click on “Meet the Directors” and then choose a state.

### **State Early Intervention Coordinators (IDEA Part C)**

The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center is the best resource for identifying Part C Coordinators for early intervention services in each state. On the NECTAC website [www.nectac.org/](http://www.nectac.org/), click on “Contacts Map Finder” and then choose a state.

### **State Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (IDEA Part B, Section 619)**

Use [www.nectac.org/](http://www.nectac.org/) as above.

### **State Vocational Rehabilitation Programs**

Use the Education Department’s Education Resource Organizations Directory (EROD) <http://bcol02.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/index.cfm> to find your state, then scroll down until you find Vocational Rehabilitation.

### **Parent Training and Information Centers**

Parent centers in each state provide training and information to parents of children with disabilities and to the professionals who work with them. The Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers provides contact information on its website <http://www.taalliance.org/> Click on the map to find the Parent Center in your state.

**Parent-to-Parent Programs**

Parent-to-Parent programs provide emotional and informational support to parents of children with special needs by matching trained and experienced veteran parents with parents who are newly referred to the program. Parent to Parent – USA is an alliance of these programs, which are available in most states. Click on the map on its homepage [www.p2pusa.org/](http://www.p2pusa.org/) to find programs by state.

**Family Voices**

Family Voices is a national, clearinghouse for information and education concerning the health care of children with special health needs. Its website [www.familyvoices.org/](http://www.familyvoices.org/) provides links to Family Voices chapters in each state, plus many other health-related sites.

**State Assistive Technology Programs**

The Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended, authorizes grants to states to address the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities. The Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) maintains a directory of state programs on its website [www.resna.org/taproject/](http://www.resna.org/taproject/).

**Protection and Advocacy**

The Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System and Client Assistance Program (CAP) comprise a nationwide network of congressionally mandated, legally-based disability rights agencies. The National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NAPAS) maintains a directory of agencies by state on its website <http://www.napas.org/>. Scroll down to the “Choose your State” dropdown menu.