Websites, Organizations, and Other Resources – Down Syndrome

**Down syndrome-Specific**

**Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area**
[www.dsconnection.org](http://www.dsconnection.org)
Provides education, advocacy, and support groups for the entire family and developmental based classes for babies, children, teens and adults with Down syndrome.

**Down Syndrome Education International**
[www.dsinternational.org/en-us](http://www.dsinternational.org/en-us)
Conducts and supports scientific research and evidence-based resources to improve education for children with Down syndrome worldwide. Website includes research/articles database.

**Down Syndrome: Health Issues**
[www.ds-health.com](http://www.ds-health.com)
A site written and maintained by a pediatrician with a child with Down syndrome.

**Downsyn: Parent Forum**
[www.downsyn.com](http://www.downsyn.com)

**Global Down Syndrome Foundation**
[www.globaldownsyndrome.org](http://www.globaldownsyndrome.org)
Provides fundraising, education, awareness and government advocacy for the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome.

**National Association for Down Syndrome**
[www.nads.org](http://www.nads.org)
Offers information, support, and advocacy for persons with Down syndrome and their families.

**National Down Syndrome Congress**
[www.ndscenter.org](http://www.ndscenter.org)
Provides information, advocacy and support concerning all aspects of life for individuals with Down syndrome, with a major emphasis on dignity and independence.

**National Down Syndrome Society**
[www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org)
A national organization providing comprehensive online resources, publications, advocacy opportunities, and more. A wonderful place to start if you are a caregiver or professional.

**National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health**
[www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/down/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/down/Pages/default.aspx)
A part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Includes general information as well as clinical trials and research studies.

**National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research**
[www.nidcr.nih.gov/oralhealth/Topics/DevelopmentalDisabilities/PracticalOralCarePeopleDownSyndrome.htm](http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/oralhealth/Topics/DevelopmentalDisabilities/PracticalOralCarePeopleDownSyndrome.htm)
Tips and strategies for providing oral care to people with Down syndrome.
T21 Online Community
www.t21online.com

Uno Mas! Bulletin Board and Parent Forum
www.unomas.proboards.com

**Developmental and/or Intellectual Disabilities**

Developmental Disabilities Resources for Healthcare Providers
www/DDHealthinfo.org
A collection of information and programs on developmental disabilities, from California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and UC San Diego’s School of Medicine.

Exceptional Parent Magazine
800-247-8080, www.eparent.com
Provides support and information to families of children and adults with disabilities and special healthcare needs as well as to health professionals and education professionals.

The Presidents Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID)
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/pcpid/
Dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Website contains its history, its goals, facts and research about Intellectual Disabilities.

SF State & Support for Families Website on Speech and Language Development
www.speechlanguageinfo.myefolio.com/main/home (English)
Parent resource website on speech and language development in multiple languages.

Special Olympics
www.specialolympics.org
Through year-round sports training and competition, it endeavors to empower those with intellectual disabilities around the world.

Woodbine House
www.woodbinehouse.com
Publisher specializing in quality books, DVDs, children’s books kits, etc. about children with special needs.

**Special Education**

Building the Legacy: IDEA 2004
idea.ed.gov
Major topics covered by IDEA 2004. It has excellent sections on Early Intervening Services/RTI, IEPs, Discipline, Highly Qualified Teachers, Procedural Safeguards, and other important topics.

Community Alliance for Special Education (CASE) and Disability Rights California
Special Education Rights and Responsibilities Handbook
www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/PublicationsSERREnglish.htm
Covers basic rights, evaluations and assessments, eligibility, and more in a Q&A format. Based on special education laws and court decisions in effect at the time of publication.
Division of Early Childhood (DEC)
www.dec-sped.org
Promotes evidence-based practices that support families and professionals to enhance the development of young children who have or are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities.

The Education Resources Information Center (ERIC) Digests
www.eric.ed.gov
ERIC Digests are secondary research articles that synthesize research in specific topics of education.

Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education
Frequently Asked Questions about Section 504
www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html
OCR serves student populations facing discrimination as well as the advocates and institutions promoting systemic solutions to civil rights problems.

Resources for Early Childhood project, Ohio Resource Center
www.rec.ohiocenter.org/InclusiveClassroom
Early childhood educators and parents can learn how to make inclusion happen, including the Learning Experiences, Planning Options and Universal Design for Learning pages.

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Special Education Programs
1-877-433-7827, edpubs.ed.gov
Website has U.S. Department of Education publications and other products. May also order paper copies. All publications are provided at no cost.

Wrightsland Special Education Law and Education
Provides accurate, reliable information about special education law, education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities. Fantastic resource.

Parent to Parent

Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR)
www.parentcenterhub.org
Central resource of information to the community of Parent Training Information (PTI) Centers and Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs). Find parent center(s) in your state here.

San Francisco/California Region

The Arc San Francisco
www.thearcsf.org
Nonprofit service, education, and career center for adults with developmental disabilities and their families.

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
www.cfilc.org/find-ilc/
www.ilrcsf.org (San Francisco ILRC)
Independent Living Centers provide direct services to youth and adults with disabilities in order to help them live independently. Go to the CFILC website to find the center in your county.

**Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area**  
www.dsconnection.org  
Provides education, advocacy, and support groups for the entire family and developmental based classes for babies, children, teens and adults with Down syndrome.

**Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA)**  
www.frcnca.org  
A coalition of California’s 47 Family Resource Centers. Early Start Family Resource Centers (ESFRC) provide parent to parent support, outreach, information and referral services to families of children with disabilities and the professionals who serve them.

**Golden Gate Regional Center**  
1535 Market St, Suite 220, San Francisco CA 94103  
415-546-9222; Intake Line 888-339-3305; intake@ggrc.org  
www.ggrc.org  
State-funded organization that helps individuals with developmental disabilities in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties access services. For the regional center in your county, go to the CA Department of Developmental Services (www.dds.ca.gov, 916-654-1690).

**San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)**  
*Early Childhood Special Education Services*  
1520 Oakdale Ave, San Francisco, CA 94124; Tel: 415-401-2525; Fax: 415-920-5075  
*Special Education Central Office*  
3045 Santiago St, San Francisco, CA 94116; Tel: 415-759-2222; Fax: 415-242-2528  

**SFUSD Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CAC)**  
www.cacspedsf.org  
Champions effective special education programs and services and advises the Board of Education on priorities in the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). The State Education Code mandates that each SELPA have a CAC and that a majority of CAC members are parents. If you are not in SF, ask your local school for information about your local CAC.

**State Council on Developmental Disabilities**  
www.scdd.ca.gov  
Established by state and federal law as an independent state agency to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families receive the services and supports they need.

**Support for Families (SFCD)**  
1663 Mission St, 7th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103  
415-920-5040, info@supportforfamilies.org  
www.supportforfamilies.org  
The family resource center and parent training information center in San Francisco. Provides information, education, and support for families and professionals of children with disabilities, concerns, or special health care needs.