



NATIONAL
CHARTER SCHOOL
RESOURCE CENTER
AT SAFAL PARTNERS

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES RESOURCES



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I. SWD Review Report — Purpose & Development



As public schools, charter schools have an obligation to serve students with disabilities (SWD); as self-governing, mission-oriented, and nimble schools, charter schools have a corresponding opportunity to provide innovative, student-centered opportunities to meet those obligations. This compilation from the National Charter School Resource Center (NCSRC) is designed to provide the charter school community with access to useful information (such as research, case studies, and toolkits) in support of their work to effectively serve students with disabilities.

The compilation draws from key stakeholders and leaders in the sector, including federal, state, and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and research agencies, that have developed resources specifically to aid charter schools in the important efforts they take to serve students with disabilities. Other resources provide data to explain how well and to what extent charters serve those students.

This annotated resource guide identifies existing resources in the field and prioritizes those that are most recent, usable, and commonly cited. The compilation also seeks to maintain a diversity of perspectives and relevance to multiple audiences, including charter school leadership, parents, and policymakers.

We cast a wide net in a search for resources currently used in the field, with input from the experts noted below.

SWD Expert	Position and Organization
Bethany Gross	Senior Research Analyst and Research Director, <i>Center on Reinventing Public Education</i>
Amy Ruck Kagan	Former Executive Director, <i>Philadelphia Charters for Excellence</i>
Paul O'Neill	Co-Founder and Executive Director, <i>National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools</i>
Gina Plate	Special Education Advisor, <i>California Charter Schools Association</i>
Lauren Rhim	Co-Founder and Executive Director, <i>National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools</i>

We synthesized the substantial volume of SWD resources in table format. The matrix provides different audiences with the ability to navigate through the published resources, available as of December 2016.

II. User's Guide



Below we detail how the charter school community can best use this compilation. The SWD resources contain the following information:

- **Year and Resource Type:** Resource lists are organized by type, then chronologically within each type. Types include Report, Article, Case Study, Webinar, Toolkit, Collection of Resources, Handbook, Fact Sheet, Presentation, Panel Discussion, and Online Resource.
- **Organization and Author(s):** Agency or organization responsible for producing and publishing the resource or author(s) affiliated organization, along with author(s) of the resource, if applicable.
- **Title:** Title of the resource. Each title is hyperlinked to the resource's online location.
- **Target Audience:** Audience that will receive the most direct benefit from the resource.
- **Description of Resource:** Description of the resource, including an overview of content.¹

Beyond the key information listed above, the resources are divided into four functional categories to help users navigate the list. The categories include:

1. [U.S. Department of Education Tools, Resources & Guidance](#): Includes federal guidance and related resources, such as technical resource collections, Dear Colleague Letters, handbooks, and presentations.
2. [Data Compilations, Tables & Fact Sheets](#): Includes statistics-focused publications, fact sheets, tables, and other visual data representations based on surveys and research.
3. [Studies & Reports](#): Includes reports on relevant research, strategies, and actionable recommendations for practitioners and stakeholders, along with scholarly articles and research studies on SWD in charter schools.
4. [Case Studies, Toolkits & Illustrative Resources](#): Includes case studies (many video-based) of high-quality programs for SWD in charter schools, along with practical implementation guidance, tools, and templates.

¹ Note that while we sometimes use different terms for students with disabilities (e.g., special education students, special needs students) to reflect the author's language and wording, we attempt to maintain consistency in terminology where possible.

III. Resources



Please see the tables that follow for resources in each of the four functional categories.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TOOLS, RESOURCES & GUIDANCE (page 1 of 3)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2016 Dear Colleague Letter	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), U.S. Department of Education (ED)	Dear Colleague Letter	State Education Agencies (SEAs), school personnel, and advocacy organizations	<p>Federal guidance on the provision of free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities (SWD) in public virtual schools, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification of requirements in Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for virtual schools; • General supervisory responsibilities for states that have virtual charter schools, noting different requirements depending on charter school Local Education Agency (LEA) status; • Child find responsibilities; and • FAPE provisions.
2015 Report	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, ED	Thirty-seventh Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Parts B and C, 2015	SEAs, Local Education Agencies (LEAs), policymakers, and advocacy organizations	<p>OSERS' 37th Annual Report to Congress on IDEA implementation and progress towards achieving its objectives in 2015. Addresses national and state-level progress in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing FAPE for all SWD • Ensuring that the rights of SWD and their parents are protected; • Assisting states and localities in providing education for all SWD; and • Assessing the effectiveness of SWD education. <p>State-level findings and data are broken down by student age ranges and IDEA Parts B and C.</p>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TOOLS, RESOURCES & GUIDANCE (page 2 of 3)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Toolkit	Office of Special Education Programs, ED	Tool Kit on Teaching and Assessing Students with Disabilities	SEAs, schools, educators, and families	<p>Guidance to “increase states’ capacity to provide rigorous assessment, instruction, and accountability” for students with disabilities. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research briefs and resources designed to improve SWD instruction, assessment, and accountability in an easy-to-understand format; • Assessments (e.g., large-scale assessment, alternate assessment, progress monitoring, and response to intervention); • Instructional practices (e.g., K-3 literacy, social interaction and communication, and adolescent literacy); • Behavior (e.g., schoolwide behavioral interventions); and • Accommodations (e.g., instructional and assessment accommodations).
2013 Report	ED American Institutes for Research	The Inclusion of Students With Disabilities in School Accountability Systems: An Update	SEAs and policymakers	<p>Report analyzing the implementation of IDEA’s mandate that states and districts include students with disabilities in their assessments and subsequent reporting. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptive information on school-level accountability, adequate year progress (AYP) performance, and school improvement status of schools accountable for SWD subgroup performance under Title I of ESEA, as well as schools not accountable for SWD subgroup performance; and • Overall data for charter schools from the 2006-07 through the 2009-10 school years in 44 states and the District of Columbia, including data on how SWDs affect whether schools make AYP.

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Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2012 Report	Government Accountability Office	Charter Schools: Additional Federal Attention Needed to Help Protect Access for Students with Disabilities	Federal agencies, SEAs, and authorizers	<p>GAO study exploring whether charter schools appropriately serve students with disabilities. The study asks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do SWD enrollment levels in charter schools and traditional public schools compare, and what is known about the factors that may contribute to any differences; • How do charter schools reach out to SWD and what special education services do they provide; and • What role do ED, SEAs, and other entities that oversee charter schools play in ensuring SWD have access to charter schools?

DATA COMPILATIONS, TABLES & FACT SHEETS

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2016 Webpage	National Association of Charter School Authorizers	Authorizing Data in Depth: Special Education	Authorizers and policymakers	NACSA's 2015 annual collection of charter school authorizing data, including survey findings exploring the role authorizers should play in overseeing charter school special education policies and practices (e.g., application practices, oversight practices, and public reporting policies).
2015 Fact Sheet	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, ED	OSERS Transition Data Fact Sheet	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	Technical compilation of background information and accompanying data on post-secondary opportunities and outcomes for students with disabilities.
2015 Fact Sheet	National Center for Education Statistics	Fast Facts: Students with Disabilities	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	<i>NCES: Fast Facts</i> table on the number of students with disabilities who receive services nationally, along with the number and percentage served by year and broken down by disability.
2015 Report	New York City Independent Budget Office	Comparing Student Attrition Rates at Charter Schools and Nearby Traditional Public Schools	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	Comparative data on student attrition rates in New York City charter schools as compared to district-managed schools. The study found that students identified as having a disability in kindergarten remained at their charter schools at a higher rate than similar students at nearby traditional public schools.

STUDIES & REPORTS (page 1 of 6)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2016 Report	The Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities	Equity Matters: Digital & Online Learning for Students with Disabilities	Educators, SEAs, and policymakers	<p>Study of online education for K-12 students with disabilities. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy scans for SWD online learning in 50 states and five territories; • Current research in the field and best practices; • Challenges and opportunities teachers face in supporting SWD virtually; and • SEA responsibilities.
2015 Report	National Alliance for Public Charter Schools National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools	Getting Lost While Trying to Follow the Money: Special Education Finance in Charter Schools	Charter school authorizers, administrators, and operators, and state and local policy officials	<p>Report on the flow of special education funding in charter schools, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the funding models for general and special education programs in public schools; • Examples of special education funding mechanisms from three states to show how they affect a charter school's operations; • Questions charter schools and authorizers should ask about special education funding in their state; and • Summary of state laws and regulations on special education funding in states with charter schools.

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Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Report	California Charter Schools Association	Special Education in California Charter Schools: All Students Welcome	Charter school authorizers and administrators, and policy officials	<p>Report on California's special education landscape. It explores systemic challenges and unique solutions designed to support school autonomy alongside improved access and services for students with disabilities. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the policy landscape; • Analysis of barriers charter schools face using a large sample of longitudinal data for LEA charters; and • Recommendations for those involved in charter school policy and administration, both in California and other states with similar special education structures.
2015 Report	National Alliance for Public Charter Schools National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools	Equity at Scale: How Public Charter School Networks Can Innovate and Improve Services for Students with Disabilities	Charter schools, charter school networks, SEAs, and policymakers	<p>Report on how state laws and systems shape charter school operations. It also discusses how to leverage charter networks' scale and reach to strengthen special education offerings. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors influencing special education delivery in charter schools (e.g., LEA status and state and local law); • Challenges schools face in serving SWD, with limited resources and limited capacity; • Collaborative multi-school practices offered through public charter school networks; and • Recommendations for individual schools and networks.

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Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Report	National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools	Key Trends in Special Education in Charter Schools: A Secondary Analysis of the Civil Rights Data Collection 2011-2012	SEAs, LEAs, and policymakers	<p>Analysis of the most recent release of ED’s Civil Rights Data collection, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data and analysis across a variety of measures, and across and within states; • Comparison of the enrollment, placement, suspension, and expulsion of SWD in charter schools compared to traditional public schools; • Discipline data and data on specialized charter schools that offer the least restrictive environment; and • Recommendations for policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels on how to maximize the benefits of charter schools to SWD.
2015 Report	WestEd Institute of Education Sciences	Identifying and Supporting English Learner Students with Learning Disabilities: Key Issues in the Literature and State Practice	Charter school leaders, SEAs, and LEAs who establish procedures on EL placement in special education programs	<p>Report that presents existing research and policies on identifying and supporting EL students with disabilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key questions and processes for identifying ELs with learning disabilities; • Gaps in the existing literature; • Proposed framework for serving EL students with disabilities; • State procedures for assessing and supporting ELs with disabilities, based on 20 states with the largest populations of EL students; and Implications for policymakers and education officials along with areas that merit further research.

STUDIES & REPORTS (page 4 of 6)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Article	Marcus A. Winters, <i>Education Next</i>	The Myth About the Special Education Gap	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	Article on the discrepancies between charter school and school district enrollment of students with disabilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of data from elementary school students in New York and Denver; and Discussion of findings, including two potential explanations for the gap.
2015 Paper	Elizabeth Setren, Department of Economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Special Education and English Learner Students in Boston Charter Schools: Impact and Classification	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	Research paper using admissions lotteries to estimate the effects of Boston's charter school enrollment on student achievement and classification for special education and English Learner students.
2014 Report	Center for Reinventing Public Education	Special Education in Charter Schools: What We've Learned and What We Still Need to Know	Charter schools, Charter Management Organizations (CMOs), researchers, and policymakers	Research on some of the least understood, yet often contentious, issues facing charter schools and students with disabilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of how parent and student choice and special education identification rates impact the enrollment gap of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs); • Data and strategies that high-performing charter schools employ to recruit SWD and make programming more accessible; • Discussion of findings from previous studies; and • Research-based recommendations and policy questions that merit further study.

STUDIES & REPORTS (page 5 of 6)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2014 Report	Center for Reinventing Public Education	Understanding the Charter School Special Education Gap: Evidence from Denver, Colorado	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	<p>Examination of the special education enrollment “gap” between charter schools and district-run schools in Denver, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior research on matching strategies of schools’ preferences for certain types of students and vice versa; • Analysis of data on all students in grades K-8 attending charter and traditional public schools in Denver in the 2008-09 and 2013-14 school years; and • Findings on the disparity in Denver’s special education enrollment rates.
2013 Report	Matthew Richmond and Daniela Fairchild, Thomas B. Fordham Institute	Financing the Education of High-Need Students	SEAs, LEAs, and policymakers	<p>Report identifying systemic shortcomings in special education funding for the “highest-need” students, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inefficiencies in the current system of special education spending and the complex intersection of federal, state, and local funding streams; • Examples from states; and • Recommendations on special education funding strategies for government bodies and policymakers.
2013 Report	National Alliance for Public Charter Schools	Improving Access and Creating Exceptional Opportunities for Students with Disabilities in Public Charter Schools	Charter school operators and charter support organizations	<p>Report on the legal framework that shapes special education in the charter sector. It outlines the challenges and opportunities of state public charter school laws that create autonomous schools, which operate separately or alongside traditional public school districts. The report also identifies key accountability structures for charter schools and students with disabilities</p>

STUDIES & REPORTS (page 6 of 6)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2013 Article	Leman Kanitürk Kore, <i>Mid-Atlantic Education Review</i>	Challenges for Charter School with Special Education: Issues of Concern for Charter School Authorizers and Service Providers	Authorizers and charter school service providers	Overview of charter school special education challenges, including a summary of existing literature on the operational and organizational challenges of the design and delivery of special education services.
2012 Report	Center on Reinventing Public Education	New York State Special Education Enrollment Analysis	SEAs and policymakers	Report examining the distribution of students with disabilities in New York State charter schools and district schools. The report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses efforts under consideration by policymakers, for example establishing charter school enrollment targets; • Presents data comparing SWD enrollment in charter schools and district schools, with comparisons by school type and at the state, district, and authorizer levels; and • Discusses implications for states of setting special education enrollment targets for charter schools.
2012 Paper	Robert A. Garda Jr., <i>North Carolina Law Review</i>	Culture Clash: Special Education in Charter Schools	Federal agencies, SEAs, and authorizers	Paper outlining the charter school culture, the culture of special education, and how a “clash” between the two may occur. The paper concludes with strategies and recommendations for minimizing the clash at the federal, state, and authorizer levels.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 1 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2016 Online Technical Assistance Center	Office of Special Education Programs, ED	Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS) Technical Assistance Center	SEAs, LEAs, and schools	<p>Technical assistance for states, districts, and schools on positive behavioral and interventions supports. Available materials support work with the Center, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers resources for schools, families, and the community; • Provides evaluation tools and examples; • Links to relevant research and guidance on the use of PBIS for students with IEPs; and • Offers training resources.
2016 Video Case Study	National Charter School Resource Center	Case Study: Camino Nuevo's Kayne Siart Campus	Charter school operators and leaders	<p>NCSRC case study of the Kayne Siart campus of Camino Nuevo Charter Academy's inclusive/mainstream model and its success in serving students with disabilities. The video showcases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention and student success teams to determine if a student is struggling due to language acquisition needs or a potential learning disability; • Co-teachers, paraprofessional, and instructional support staff who integrate flexible groupings in classroom instruction within the inclusive, or mainstream, model; • Daily student grouping by instructional needs, regardless of their qualification for special education or EL services; and • Advice for other charter schools seeking to develop a strong inclusion model.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 2 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2016 Case Study	The Center on School Turnaround at WestEd	Special Education in the Turnaround Context: Green Dot Public Schools in Los Angeles	CMOs and other charter school operators	<p>Case study on Green Dot, a Los Angeles-based CMO, and its school turnaround efforts (e.g., taking over an existing district-managed school), with a focus on improving services for students with disabilities. The case study explores:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Green Dot hired the necessary staff to support high-quality programs, leveraged its network to benefit SWD, leveraged its autonomy to encourage innovative programs, and created a multi-tiered system of supports to sustain success in its schools; and • Factors that schools should consider in crafting school improvement efforts, including turnaround plans.
2015 Video Case Study	National Charter School Resource Center	Case Study: Two Rivers	Charter school operators and staff	<p>Case study on Two Rivers Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. and its successful strategies for serving high numbers of students with disabilities within an inclusive model. The video highlights the school's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National recognition and awards for its excellent instruction program and individualized focus on students; • Participation in a pilot project developed by the D.C. Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to involve SWD in the creation and discussion of their IEP, and the program's expansion based on its success; and • Inclusive education model that integrates SWD instruction with general education and uses a flexible grouping approach.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 3 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Webinar	National Charter School Resource Center	Serving Students with Disabilities in Charter Schools	Charter school operators and educators	<p>Webinar on research-based practices for serving students with disabilities in charter schools. Presenters discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal authorities and laws that govern the treatment of SWD in charter schools; • Increased focus on charter school networks; • Entry gap for charter school students with special needs; • Strategies for improving those students' access to charter schools; and • Q&A session with links to additional tools and resources.
2015 Webinar	National Center on Intensive Intervention National Center for Systemic Improvement	Results Driven Accountability and Intensive Intervention: Using MTSS to Improve Outcomes for Students with Disabilities	SEAs, LEAs, and charter schools	<p>Webinar on intensive interventions to address severe and persistent learning or behavior difficulties. Presenters discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of intensive intervention within a multi-tiered system of support framework; • Monitoring fidelity of implementation as a mechanism to improve outcomes for SWD; • Lessons learned from technical assistance efforts; and • List of resources for charter schools and state and local agencies designing intervention systems.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 4 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2015 Collection of Resources	The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	VSA International Art Program for Children with Disabilities: Resources for Educators and Parents	Charter school educators and families	Resources on the relationship between arts, education, and disabilities. Publications in this compilation include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines for art teachers working with SWD; and • Examples of successful art programs and teaching approaches, sample lesson plans, and projects that help SWD transition to a career in the arts.
2015 Panel Discussion	Center for English Language Learners at American Institutes for Research	Assessing English Language Proficiency of English Learner Students with Disabilities	Charter school operators and educators	Links to archived panel discussions from a 2015 ED event focused on supporting EL students through successful assessment of student needs, including how to differentiate and assess EL students with disabilities. The three panel discussions cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to differentiate EL students who have language and literacy disabilities from those who may appear similar (across several language domains, including pronunciation, syntax, semantics, and discourse) only because they are in the process of acquiring English; • Valid and reliable ways to determine English proficiency levels in the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with a focus on ELs who have specific language disabilities, speech/language impairments, or vision or hearing impairments; and • Understanding alternate ELP standards, developing items and assembling test forms based on these standards, developing ELP descriptors and setting cut scores, and setting growth and attainment criteria.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 5 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2014 Video Case Study	National Charter School Resource Center	Brooke Roslindale Charter	Charter school operators and educators	Case study on Brooke Roslindale Charter School's successful model of integrating special education and general education. The school is part of a growing network of high-performing K-8 public schools in Boston. It aims to get underserved students into and through college, with a focus on teacher quality, professional development, individualized education, and integrating special education and general education. The video showcases strategies and resources for designing SWD learning programs.
2014 Video Case Study	National Charter School Resource Center	Afya Case Study	Charter school operators and educators	Case study on Afya Public Charter School, located in Baltimore City, which employs innovative instruction techniques for students with disabilities at the middle school level. Afya achieved academic success and national recognition through an individualized approach and a focus on overall health and well-being.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 6 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2014 Video Case Study	National Charter School Resource Center	EDUPRIZE Case Study	Charter school operators and educators	<p>Case study showcasing EDUPRIZE, a charter school in Phoenix, Arizona that uses multiple modality instruction and a differentiated curriculum to serve students with disabilities. The video highlights the school's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the individual needs of all students by motivating and engaging students through hands-on experiences; • Positive behavioral support, interventions, and strategies to address behavior that impedes student learning, leading them to consistently outperform their peers in other schools; and • Tiered approach of inclusion support, resource support, and extended day resource support.
2014 Article	Gary Miron, Education Next	Charters Should Be Expected to Serve All Kinds of Students	Authorizers, policymakers, researchers, charter school leaders, and traditional school system leaders	<p>Article on the expectations of charter schools, as public schools supported by taxpayers, to enroll more students with disabilities. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of SWD under-enrollment in charter schools; • Theories and research-based evidence to explain the under-enrollment; and • Challenges that charter schools may face in serving SWD, followed by reasons that they should, nevertheless, enroll more of these students.
2013 Collection of Resources	Center for Parent Information and Resources	The Facts on Charter Schools and Students with Disabilities	Charter school parents and educators	<p>Basic introduction to special education services in charter schools. It presents commonly asked questions from families and educators of students with disabilities and provides links to state-specific resources.</p>

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 7 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2013 Webinar	National Charter School Resource Center	Legal Rights of Children with Disabilities and Charter Schools	Charter schools and families of students with disabilities	<p>Webinar on the legal rights of students with disabilities in charter schools. Presenters discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal legal authorities that apply to SWD; • Hypothetical legal issues and ways to avoid and resolve them; and • Enrollment and recruitment of SWD in charter schools.
2013 Webinar	National Charter School Resource Center	SEA Community of Practice: Integrating Special Education into Key Practices: Rubrics to Examine Charter Applications and Monitoring	Authorizers	<p>Webinar to help authorizers evaluate special education aspects of charter school applications, operations, and renewals. Presenters discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubrics developed to help authorizers evaluate special education components of a charter school during the application, operation, and renewal phases. • How rubrics can be used to help authorizers under a state agency improve their special education oversight.
2012 Panel Discussion	National Charter School Resource Center	Innovations in the Charter School Community: Reinventing the Delivery of Special Education	Charter school educators, CMOs, and charter school operators	<p>Panel discussion from an NCSRC full-day conference titled <i>Building the Capacity of Charter Schools: Effectively Serving Students with Disabilities</i>, which provided charter school educators with information, tools, and resources on providing high-quality services to students with disabilities. Resources include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student and teacher evaluation forms; • Behavioral assessments; • Applications; • Observations; • Meeting note templates; and • Relevant checklists.

CASE STUDIES, TOOLKITS & ILLUSTRATIVE RESOURCES (page 8 of 8)

Year / Resource Type	Organization and Author(s)	Title (source linked)	Target Audience	Description of Resource
2012 Authorizer Tool	National Charter School Resource Center	Charter School Authorizer Assessing Special Education Capacity Independent LEA Existing LEA	Authorizers	<p>Rubrics to increase authorizers' capacity for developing and maintaining high-quality special education programs within the charter schools they authorize. The rubrics serve as a road map for assessing a charter school applicant's capacity to develop, offer, and sustain special education programs. They contain three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application review along characteristics and requirements; 2. Operations and oversight; and 3. Renewal applications. <p>The first link contains a rubric for schools operating as independent LEAs, while the second link contains a rubric for schools operating within an existing LEA.</p>
2011 News Article	Rachel Cromidas, <i>Chalkbeat</i>	Struggling with special education, charter schools join together	Charter school administrators and policy officials	Article on the launch of the New York City Charter School Center's Special Education Collaborative, designed to build capacity for high-need students. The collaborative serves as a model for multi-school collaboration to improve education outcomes for students with disabilities.