



ESE Program Information Sheet - Other Health Impaired (OHI)

Definition: Other health impairment means having limited strength, vitality or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems. This includes, but is not limited to, asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, Tourette syndrome, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and acquired brain injury. This definition is found in State Board of Education Rule, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Overview: Because the label of OHI encompasses students with a vast degree of varying abilities, students need to be considered on an individual basis. For example, a child with asthma who is designated OHI may only need accommodations or health care goals; whereas a child with Down syndrome (also called OHI) may need supports in every domain.

State Laws and Regulations: The rule referenced below is specific to OHI. Please refer to [Volume I-B: Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules, Excerpts Related to Exceptional Student Education](#) (PDF, 9MB) for a complete listing of laws and regulations applicable to exceptional student education. [6A-6.030152, F.A.C.: Exceptional Student Education Eligibility for Students With Other Health Impairment](#)

General Resources: The following Resources will provide educators with information concerning Students who qualify under Other Health Impaired.

Websites:

- [Florida Epilepsy Services Program](#)
- [Florida Fights Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders \(FASD\)](#)

National Resources:

- [American Diabetes Association – Diabetes Care at SchoolCenters for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder \(CHADD\)](#)
- [Educator’s Guide to Sickle Cell and School](#) (PDF)
- [National Asthma Education and Prevention Program – Managing Asthma, A Guide for Schools](#) (PDF)
- [National Diabetes Education Program – A Guide for School Personnel](#)
- [National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities \(NICHD\) – Other Health Impairment](#)
- [National Education Association Health Information Network \(NEAHIN\): Asthma and Schools](#)
- [National Institute of Mental Health \(NIMH\) - ADHD](#)
- [National Tourette Syndrome Association \(TSA\) – Education and Education Strategies](#)
- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) – School and Child Care Based Asthma Education Programs](#)