

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidance and Special Education

Wisconsin FACETS

December 10, 2025



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Today We Will...

- Understand how AI may be implemented to support students with disabilities and improve special education services.
 - Identify key ways families can utilize AI tools to support student success and enhance communication and collaboration with educators.
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Definition of AI

Artificial intelligence, or "AI," is the ability of a computer to think and learn so that it can perform tasks that are typically done by people. AI, however, can process large amounts of data in ways that humans cannot. The goal is for AI to recognize patterns and make informed decisions like humans.

WI DPI Guidance




AI Guidance for Enhancing K-12 and
Library Education

Examples of AI in Daily Life

- Curated Social Media Feeds and Streaming Services
- Smart Phones, Computers, and Watches
- Digital Voice Assistants
- Smart Home Devices
- Navigation Tools, Delivery, Self-Driving Vehicles
- Online Banking, Bill Pay, Ordering, Customer Service

[10 Examples of Artificial Intelligence in Real-Life \(2025\) – GeeksforGeeks](#)

Where Your Child Might be Using AI

- Chatbots in social platforms
 - Smart assistants
 - YouTube, Netflix or TikTok
 - Face-changing filters or voice effects
 - Toys or games that respond to speech
 - Educational apps
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AI Chatbots

- Exposure to Harmful Content
 - Emotional Manipulation and False Intimacy
 - Impaired Social Development
 - Mental Health Risks
 - Data Privacy Concerns
 - Inaccurate Information
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Why Parents Need to Know About AI

We are only starting to understand the potential unintended consequences of these tools:

- Unanswered legal and ethical questions regarding its use
- Increased use of AI may increase feelings of loneliness or isolation
- Tools may not be good at responding to serious mental health crises, including episodes of mania, psychosis, and suicidal ideation


Current State of AI in Education

“Artificial Intelligence” is more than just the tools we use to generate text and make funny pictures or videos. There are three main categories of AI that you might see used in schools:


- Reactive AI
- Predictive AI
- Generative AI

[National Education Association Task Force on AI In Education](#)


Potential Benefits of AI in Teaching and Learning

- Personalized Learning
 - Assistive Technology
 - Executive Functioning Support
 - Accessibility
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Examples AI in Special Education

- Practicing, learning, and assessing academic skills
 - Recommend library books based on previous checkouts and reading levels
 - Practicing social communication skills, Augmentative and Adaptive Communication (AAC)
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AI and the IEP

- IEP Present Level and Goals
 - Instructional Support
 - Data and Communication Support
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Best Practices When Using AI

- AI Philosophies
 - AI as a Tool
 - AI as a Partner
 - Human-Centered Approach ($H > AI > H$)
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Potential Concerns of AI in Teaching and Learning

- Data Privacy
 - Algorithmic Bias
 - Over-Reliance on Technology
 - Inaccurate AI Detection
 - Inconsistent Policies
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Confidentiality & Data Privacy

- ❑ Use only secure, district-approved devices and networks when accessing AI.
 - ❑ Check compliance of AI platforms with FERPA/HIPAA and district policies.
 - ❑ Do not put identifiable info (e.g., names, DOB, IDs) into AI tools.
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Client Safety

- ❑ Maintain full human oversight over AI-generated content.
 - ❑ Review outputs carefully to avoid harmful inaccuracies or inappropriate language.
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Bias Mitigation

- ❑ Use inclusive, representative input when prompting AI tools.
 - ❑ Check for cultural, linguistic, disability, gender, or racial bias.
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Customization & Relevance

- ❑ Adapt AI content to each student's developmental level, IEP goals, and unique needs

Transparency & Disclosure

- ❑ Note AI assistance on drafts shared with team members (e.g., “drafted with AI”).
 - ❑ Do not present AI-generated content as solely professional judgment.
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Equity Concerns

- ❑ Algorithmic Bias
- ❑ Lack of Representation in Development
- ❑ Access
- ❑ Digital Divide

Environmental Concerns

Energy Consumption and Emissions




CARBON
FOOTPRINT

Water Usage



Key Points

1. AI is a tool that supports **not** replaces educators
 2. Maintain a human-centered approach
 3. [DPI AI Guidance](#) is available and a more interactive DPI website is coming soon.
 4. Careful monitoring, evaluation and continuous improvement are essential!
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What AI Cannot Replace

Core Human Needs

- ❑ Belonging
- ❑ Autonomy
- ❑ Competence
- ❑ Self-Esteem
- ❑ Trust
- ❑ Purpose

**“Humans Create
AI Generates”**


Jesse Lubinsky,
Adobe

Questions Parents May Ask

- What specific AI tools are being used, and what are their functions?
- How does the school ensure the AI's recommendations are appropriate and individualized for my child's specific needs?
- What data privacy and security measures are in place? Can I opt-out or limit the data sharing with third-party AI vendors?
- How are teachers using professional judgment to review and adjust AI-generated content or recommendations, especially concerning the IEP?
- How is the school ensuring that the use of AI is enhancing my child's critical thinking skills, rather than creating over-dependence?
- Have clear guidelines been established regarding student use of generative AI for assignments, and how are potential false accusations from AI detectors handled?

Parent Toolkit

[A guide to artificial intelligence \(AI\) for parents | Internet Matters](#)

- Interactive Guide
 - Get Advice
 - By Age
 - By issue (gaming, social media, learning, etc.)
 - Apps
 - By Activity
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Questions

