

# Special Education



Special Education represents the refinement of the general education. It enforces that education provides good guidance to every student and executes adaptive education and protects every student's right to a proper education. The special education gives both gifted and disabled students the best future development; they will be independent and thus serve the society. Our nation's special education emphasizes on both quality and quantity in education, and protecting these students' rights to a proper education. The Golden Decade report published in 2011 laid out the plans to refine the education of both gifted and disabled students, which not only improves the quality of special education and it also serves as the blueprints of the development of the special education system.

Besides modifying the Special Education Act and its branch laws due to the change in environment and education needs, the enhancement of the special education should be done through actively upgrading teachers' knowledge, promoting the new curriculum, rising the results of special education, establishing an online support system for the administration of the special education, improving the services and training of the professional team, advancing the accessible environment of the campus, creating a friendly campus, increasing the parents' participation, and integrating resources from the communities. Improvement in the understanding and consideration of the society towards the disabled students shall enforce the human rights of persons with disabilities and their basic rights to freedom.

The budget for special education has increased from NT\$5.579 billion in 2001 to NT\$9.903 billion in 2015. The percentage of the total education budget allotted to special education rose from 3.72% to 4.56%; there is a huge increase in students of special education in various levels. The number of disabled students in preschool rises from 3,689 in 2001 to 15,559 in 2015. The number of disabled students in primary school rises from 35,721 in 2001 to 42,022 in 2015. The number of disabled students in junior high school rises from 20,993 in 2001 to 28,228 in 2015. The number of disabled students in senior and vocational high school rises from 6,952 in 2001 to 23,577 in 2015. The number of disabled students in higher education rises from 2,961 in 2001 to 12,376 in 2015. There are 25,746 gifted students in 2015.

## For the Golden Decades, the Key Goals in the Special Education Policies Include:



**1** Completion of legislation for special education; establishment of guidelines for special education policy.

**2** Strengthening of multiple-route placement system for students with special needs; promotion of inclusive education.

**3** Enhancement of quality and quantity of special education classes.

**4** Increase in availability of preschool special education; emphasis on early intervention for children.

**5** Improvements in primary and secondary school special education; providing more flexible alternatives.

**6** More opportunities for students to receive tertiary education; making available more special education classroom resources.

**7** Encouragement and subsidies for schools that help students with special needs complete full education.

**8** Adjustment of teaching methods in special education curricula and training of special education teachers.

**9** Establishment of least restrictive environments and support programs on campus.

**10** Promotion of multiple education alternatives for gifted students so as to fully develop their talents.

**11** Digitization of special education administration and establishment of administrative support networks.<sup>III</sup>

