

# Eligibility Categories for Special Education Under IDEA and Chapter 60

## Developmental Delay (DD)

### Ages 6 through 8 Years Old

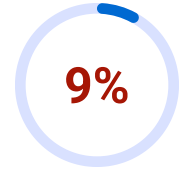
**DD** means a child is slow to meet or not reaching milestones in one or more areas of development expected for the child's age.



To qualify under the DD criteria for students aged 6 through 8 years old the student must:

- exhibit delays in 3 out of 5 developmental areas,
- experience a negative impact in their education,
- and require special education and related services.

Only about **1 in 10 school age students with IEPs** in Hawaii in School Year 2023-24 were eligible under the category DD.



**1,720/18,241 students**

Source: Section 618 Child Count Data

### Factors that may exclude eligibility under Developmental Delay:

- a lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math,
- limited English proficiency,
- an environmental or economic disadvantage, or
- cultural factors.

### Areas of Developmental Delay

Eligibility requires delays in at least three (3) of the following five (5) areas of development:

#### Areas

#### Examples

**Motor Development**



Writing, keyboarding, skipping, hopping, copying, moving in the environment, etc.

**Communication**



Understanding spoken language, speaking clearly, explaining events, etc.

**Academic Achievement**



Reading, writing, spelling, math, problem solving, reasoning, calculation, etc.

**Adaptive Behavior**



Following school rules, transitioning to new activities, interacting with others, etc.

**Cognition**



Thinking, remembering, making decisions, organizing, applying experiences, etc.

Children 6 through 8 determined to be DD eligible require a **reevaluation by age 9** for the team to determine if the child continues to be eligible under a different IDEA category.

