

## What is People First Language?

People First Language puts the person before the disability, and describes what a person *has*, not who a person *is*.



## People First Language Examples of what to say and ~~not~~ to say:

People with disabilities .....	<del>Handicapped, disabled</del>
Individuals without disabilities.....	<del>Normal</del>
People with intellectual and developmental disabilities.....	<del>Retarded, mentally handicapped, slow</del>
Individuals with mental illness.....	<del>Crazy, disturbed</del>
Person who is deaf, hard of hearing.....	<del>The deaf</del>
Individual who is deaf & can not speak.....	<del>Deaf and dumb, mute</del>
Person who is blind, visual impairment.....	<del>The Blind</del>
Individual with epilepsy has a seizure disorder.....	<del>Epileptic, victim of epilepsy</del>
A student who uses a wheelchair, have a mobility impairment.....	<del>Cripple, confined to/is wheelchair bound</del>
Person with quadriplegia, paraplegia.....	<del>A paraplegic, a quad</del>
Individual of small stature, little person .....	<del>Dwarf, midget</del>
A person with a congenital disability.....	<del>Birth defect</del>
Accessible bus, entry, reserved parking For people with disabilities.....	<del>handcapped building, short bus</del>
She needs or she uses.....	<del>She has problems with/has special needs</del>
She is a student with a learning disability/diagnosis.....	<del>She is learning disabled</del>
He is a student with Down syndrome (or diagnosis of).....	<del>He's Down's</del>
He is a student who has an IEP/504.....	<del>IEP Kid, 504 Kid</del>
He/she receives special ed services.....	<del>He's in special ed, sped kid</del>
He is a student with Autism.....	<del>He's autistic</del>

People First Language is the **right** thing to do so let's do it!

