

**Glenn County Special Education Local Plan Area  
SELPA Policy**

**Special Circumstances Instructional Assistance Policy**

Special Circumstances Instructional Assistance (SCI Assistance) is provided for a student in special education when additional support is necessary for the student to meet his or her goals and objectives. Typically, student support is provided in the context of the classroom and school environment, using existing supports. Occasionally, a student requires individual support for a designated period of time to address a unique need. When the *IEP* team is considering SCI Assistance, natural supports and existing staff must be considered first before moving forward with a SCI Assistance evaluation. A request for SCI Assistance is made only after other site interventions have been implemented with integrity and reviewed for efficacy. A student's educational program must be carefully evaluated to determine when and where the additional support is required.

**Note that the acronym SCIA does not refer to a *person*. The “A” means “Assistance” not “Assistant(s).” The SCI Assistance evaluation process is not solely for the purpose of determining the need for an aide, hence this document refers to “SCI Assistance.”**

A primary goal for all students with special needs is to encourage, promote, and maximize independence. If not carefully monitored, additional assistance can easily and unintentionally foster dependence. As a result, the *IEP* team must periodically review and document the continued need and effectiveness of this additional support.