



Parent to Parent of Georgia

Presents

An overview of P2P Services and IDEA

By

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-

**Supporting Georgia families of children
with disabilities & special healthcare needs**

What we do . . .

**We encourage families to work
with systems . . . not *against* them!**



***And we ARE Parents! We are not paid
advocates or attorneys!***



What we can do for you...

7 Core Services

1. Special Needs Database
2. Roadmap to Success
3. Supporting Parents
4. One-On-One Assistance
5. Navigator Project
6. Free Trainings
7. On-Line Opportunities



What A Great IDEA!

**A Brief Overview of
Special Education**

Special Education & IDEA

A red apple is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide, resting on a stack of books. The apple is bright red with some yellow highlights. The books below it are in various colors, including blue, red, and yellow, and are slightly out of focus.

- What is Special Education
- Basic components of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act– (IDEA)
- How the process of Special Education works in Georgia--

Child Find, Referral, Evaluation,
Eligibility, IEP Teams & Meetings,
Resolving Disputes

- Where to go for more information

What is Special Education?

- Specially designed instruction
- Available at no cost to parents
- Designed to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability
- Provided in the most typical setting appropriate for the child



Special Education is a SERVICE, not a PLACE.

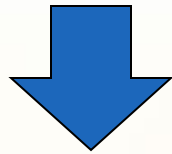
What is the IDEA?

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

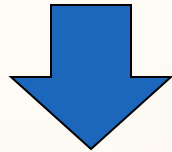
- Federal special education law
- Provides for a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Prepares children with disabilities for
 - Further education
 - Employment
 - Independent living
- Protects rights of children and parents

What Does This Mean?

Federal Law and Regulations (IDEA)



State Rules and Standards



Local Policies and Procedures

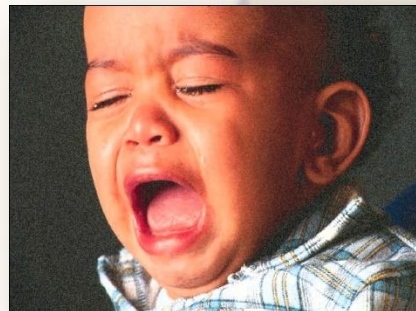
IDEA in Georgia

Who's Responsible?

Part B-
Special
Education
Ages 3-22
School System

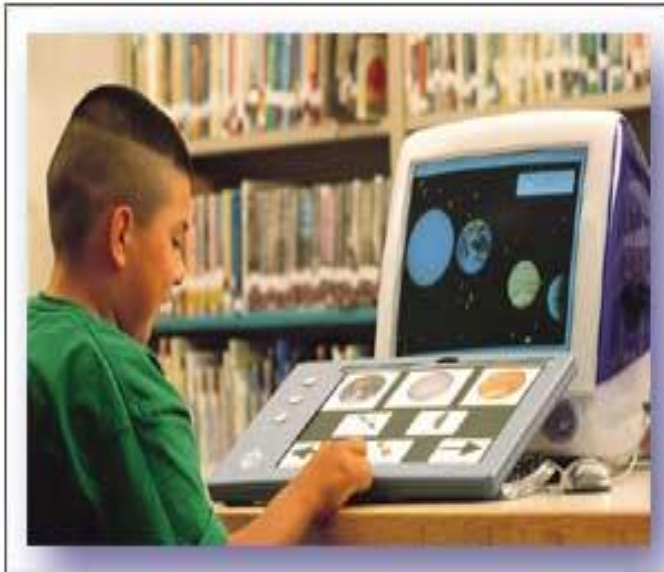
Part C-
Early Intervention
Ages 0-3
Public Health
Babies Can't Wait

Part D-
Parent Training
Information Center
Parent to Parent of
Georgia



How Does the Special Education Process Work?

- Child Find
- Referral
- Evaluation
- Eligibility
- IEP Team
- IEP Meetings



What is CHILD FIND?

A process to identify, locate, and evaluate children who are suspected of having disabilities that may need special education and related services.



What Is CHILD FIND?

Part B-
Special
Education
Ages 3-22
School System

Tier 4 –
Specially
Designed
Learning

Tier 3 – Student Support
Team

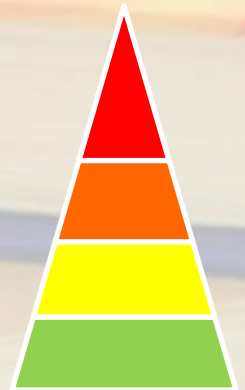
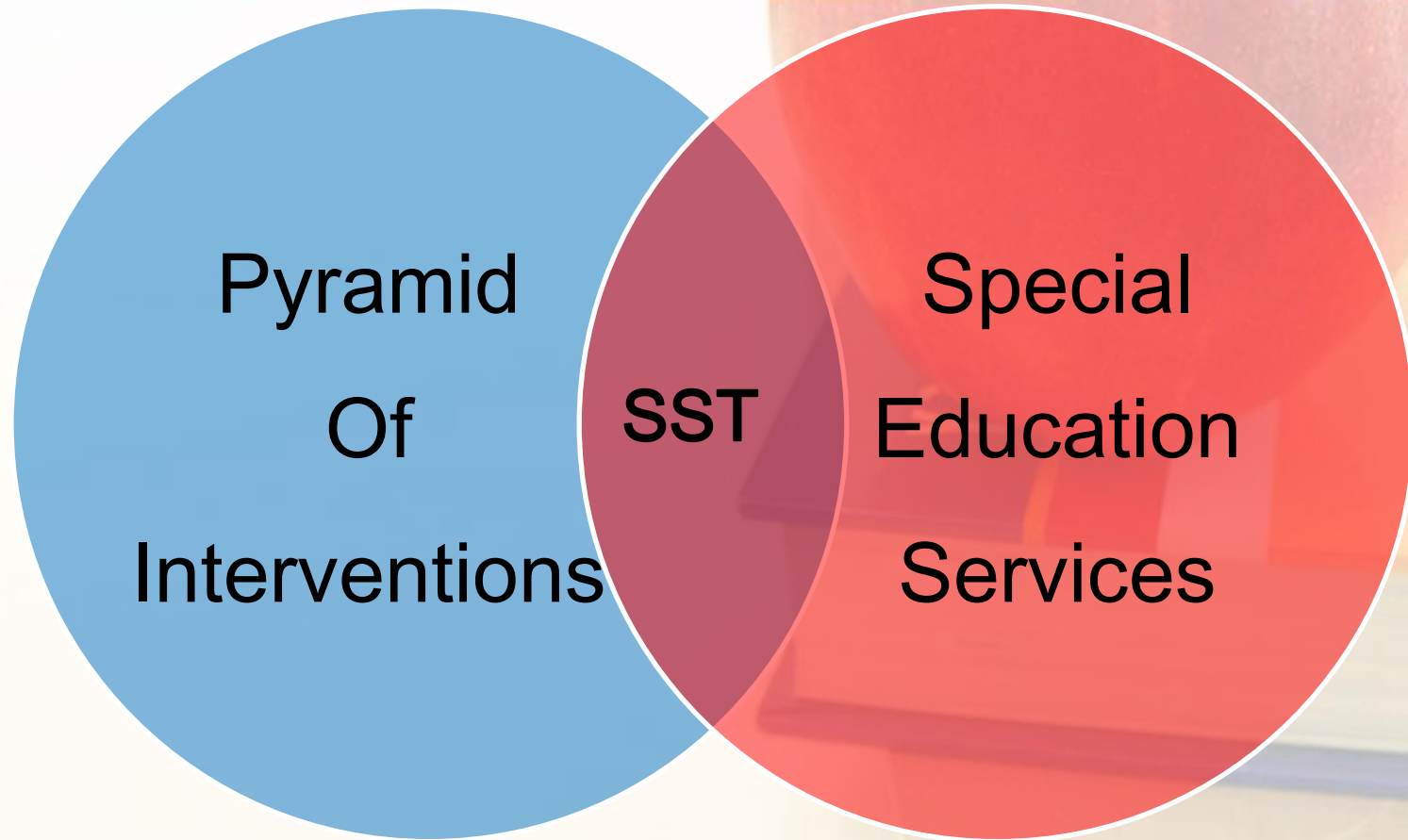
Tier 2 – Needs Based Learning

Tier 1 – Standards-Based Classroom
Learning

Response To
Interventions

GEORGIA STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT PYRAMID OF
INTERVENTIONS

How Do They Fit Together?



What Is REFERRAL?



The **SCHOOL** may ask to evaluate a child.

The request is made in writing.

The **PARENT** may say **YES** or **NO**.

What Is EVALUATION?

Why have an evaluation?

- To see if your child has a disability and needs special education and related services
- To understand your child's needs and strengths
- To make educational decisions



What Is ELIGIBILITY?

A TEAM (parents & professionals) determines eligibility after reviewing ALL of the data gathered in the evaluation process

The TEAM will ask:

1. Does the child have a disability?

AND

2. Is there a significant educational impact?

If YES, then child is eligible.

What Is ELIGIBILITY?

If the parent agrees with the “YES” decision:

- School staff will arrange a planning meeting at the school.
- You will be invited to attend.
- The purpose of the meeting is to review the evaluation and to develop an individualized education program (IEP).

What if the student is NOT Eligible?

504 Plan

- A national civil rights law (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)
- Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by any programs or activity that receive federal financial assistance

Student Support Team (SST)

- Tier 3 of Pyramid of Interventions
- Interventions to help children who are struggling

What is a 504 Plan?

A red apple with a green stem is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. It sits on a stack of books. The top book has a blue cover, and the book below it has a white cover. The background is a light, neutral color.

- Section 504 is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. Section 504 ensures that the child with a disability has equal **access** to an education. The child may receive accommodations and modifications.

What is a 504 Plan?

- Section 504 does not require the school to provide an individualized educational program (IEP) that is designed to meet the child's unique needs and provides the child with educational benefit.
- Under Section 504, fewer procedural safeguards are available to children with disabilities and their parents than under IDEA.

What Is An IEP?

An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a written statement of the educational program designed to meet a child's unique needs.



What Is An IEP TEAM?

A red apple with a green stem is positioned on top of a stack of books. The books have various colored spines, including blue, yellow, and orange. The background is a light, neutral color.

IEP Team members include:

- Parents
- Special Education Teacher
- Regular Education Teacher
- District Representative
- School Psychologist

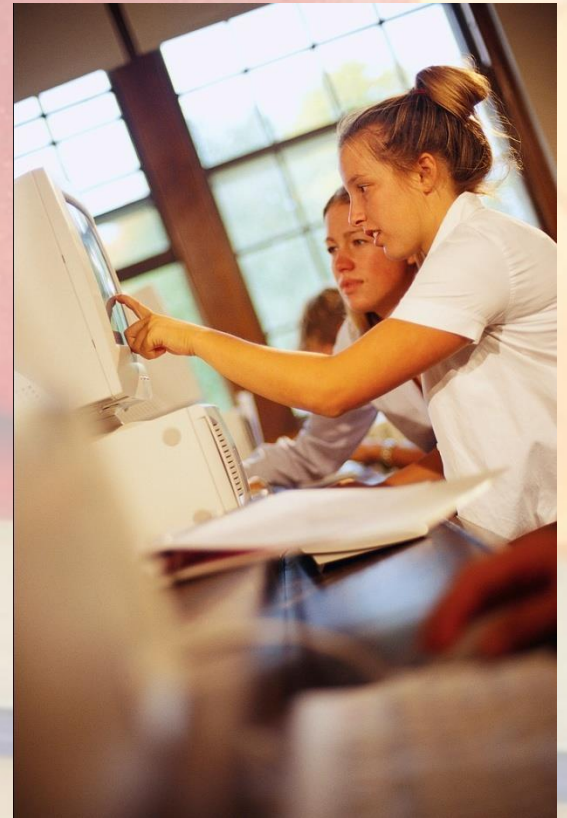
May also include:

- Child
- Principal
- Others

What Is An IEP?

The IEP team must discuss:

- Your child's strengths and abilities
- Your concerns for your child
- Evaluation results
- What your child needs in order to learn
- School Services
- Special Factors



What Is An IEP?

The IEP will describe:

- Accommodations/Modifications
- Dates and places for services
- Transition
- Age of majority
- State and District Tests
- Progress Measurement



What Are RELATED SERVICES?



- Speech-language
- Audiology
- Interpreting services
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Recreation
- Counseling
- Transportation
- Assistive Technology

What Are RELATED SERVICES?



Bounce. Can you bounce a ball?



What Is PLACEMENT?

Placement is where services are provided--

FIRST: The team determines IEP goals and services based on a child's needs.

THEN: The team will discuss where services will be provided in the **least restrictive environment**.

Special education can be provided in lots of places!

What Is LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT?

Services must be provided in the general education setting as much as possible



IDEA defines Least Restrictive Environment as *"to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities...are educated with children who are not disabled..."*

REMEMBER....

A red apple with a green stem is positioned on top of a stack of several books. The books have various colored spines, including blue, white, and orange. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white.

Remember, the purpose of special education is to prepare children to lead “productive and independent adult lives to the maximum extent appropriate.” -- IDEA

What If the Parent Disagrees?

A red apple with a green stem is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide. It is resting on a stack of books, with the spines of the books visible in shades of blue, white, and orange. The background is a light, neutral color.

- Meet with school staff
- Request Mediation
- File a State Complaint
- File a Due Process Complaint
- Resolution Session
- Due Process Hearing

Know Your IDEA Rights!!

What We Learned

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How Can We Help ...

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Call 1-800-229-2038 today!!

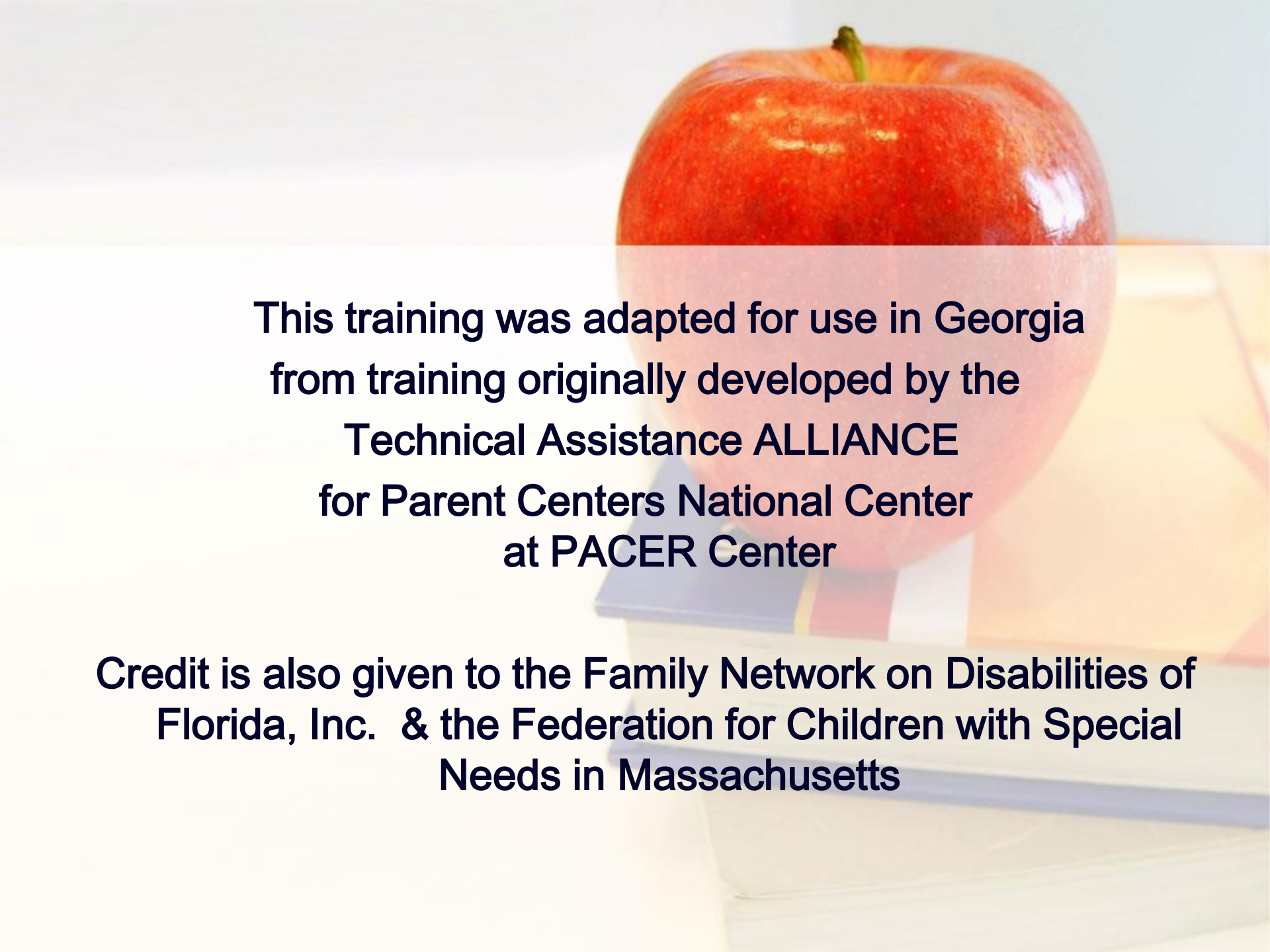
- Visit www.p2pga.org!
- Search for resources on our Special needs database
- Make a direct referral to us
- Find a Supporting Parent Match
- Provide a Training

**We cannot always build the
future for our children...**



**...but we
can build
our children
for the
future.**

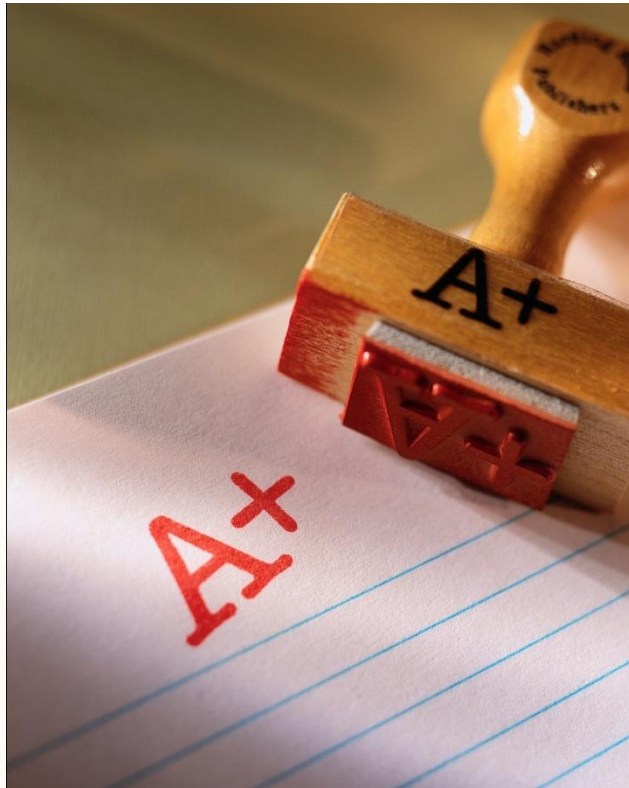
-- Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A red apple is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. A translucent rectangular box is overlaid on the image, containing text. The text is centered and reads: "This training was adapted for use in Georgia from training originally developed by the Technical Assistance ALLIANCE for Parent Centers National Center at PACER Center".

**This training was adapted for use in Georgia
from training originally developed by the
Technical Assistance ALLIANCE
for Parent Centers National Center
at PACER Center**

**Credit is also given to the Family Network on Disabilities of
Florida, Inc. & the Federation for Children with Special
Needs in Massachusetts**

Thank you for learning with us!



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