

About Project TEDD

Project TEDD is a new train-the-trainer program designed to increase knowledge and skills of educators who specialize in teaching students who have a dual diagnosis. The term dual diagnosis refers to an intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and a co-occurring mental health condition.

Project TEDD is housed in the Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities at Texas Tech University. The project is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD).



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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
College of Education™

Enhancing the
competencies of
educators in K-12
settings

Why Dual Diagnosis?

The prevalence of mental illness among the IDD population is **two to three times higher** than that of the general population.

Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are more susceptible to developing mental health disorders than their peers in the general population.

Unfortunately, their mental health needs largely go untreated due to limitations in communication, assessment, interventions, and advocacy.

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It is estimated 30%-50% of youth with IDD also have co-occurring mental health conditions.

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Why Train Educators?

In general, there is a lack of awareness of the extensive mental health needs of individuals with IDD.

Students with dual diagnosis have complex educational needs and require specialized supports.

Most educators do not have the information, training, and competencies to teach children with IDD and mental illness in K-12 settings.

Before Project TEDD, training models for educators did not exist concerning educating students with dual diagnosis.

Project Impact & Outreach

Over five years, the project will provide 400 Texas special education teachers with access to free teacher training workshops. These workshops will equip them with necessary skills for recognizing, understanding, and working with students with dual diagnosis.

The 400 teachers who receive the initial training are expected to train at least five other educators, parents, or related service professionals on dual diagnosis, impacting 2,000 or more individuals across Texas. Those trained will continue to serve as a resource for their respective district and will have the ability to train numerous others in the future.

