



The presentation will begin with the many ways in which a child could develop a disability before, during, and after birth, and then covers

- The basics of the IDEA
- The referral process
- Rights of the child and families
- Responsibilities of the school district
- Procedural and substantive violations of the IEP and the procedures for recourse
- Support/advocacy groups for various disabilities

Monday, March 30, 2026  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Hybrid class:** Online through **Yuja** and In-person at Tallent Hall, Room 182



**Our Presenter** Karen Kempinen was born in Milwaukee and graduated from New Berlin High School. She earned both her BA in Psychology and her MA in Behavioral Disabilities from UW-Madison. She worked for 39 years as a full-time special educator in various settings - private school [MARC-Lakewood, Madison], residential facility [Central Wisconsin Center, Madison], and public school [Texas and Wisconsin]. Including post-retirement substitute teaching, she taught for 48 consecutive years.

Her career began before Wisconsin, in 1973, became the second state in the country to adopt a mandatory education law to allow all children to attend public schools. This was followed, in 1975, by the federal Public Law 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act. Finally, in 1990, PL 94-142 was reauthorized by Congress as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which governs special education services today.

Karen is grateful for the many experiences and relationships she has gained from Adventures in Lifelong Learning since she joined in 2011, and she looks forward to sharing this presentation with fellow ALL members and friends.

**Questions?** Contact Karen Kempinen at [kkempinen@gmail.com](mailto:kkempinen@gmail.com)

Register by: 03/27/2026

To register [click here](#)