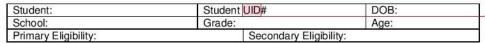


IEP ROAD MAP

for Families







Commented [PC1]: List student powerschool number.

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP)

Meeting Purpose: ☐ Initial ☐ Annual Review ☐ Addendum

Meeting Date:	
From:	To:

Student Profile

Student's overall strengths that contribute to success in the educational environment:



What input can you share about your child regarding existing strengths and abilities that the team can build on?

Parental concerns, if any, about their child's academic and functional performance in school:



SUPER IMPORTANT SECTION!

Utilize this space to document your concerns.

Consider coming to the meeting with your

concerns already in writing.

Parent /student's vision for the future: (Include, specifically, vision for after high school, if appropriate.)



What do you and your child hope for in the future? You can include short-term (increase in specific skills, decrease in specific needs) and long-term visions. (Employment, College, Independent Living)

Commented [PC2]: Select one of the three options to show the type of meeting that has been convened in order to develop an IEP for the student.

Commented [PC3]: The start date of the IEP should match the Implementation date listed on the Prior Written Notice. The end date should be no more than 364 days from the start date of the IEP.

Commented [PC4]: IEP teams should summarize assessment information (e.g. from early intervention providers, child outcome measures, curriculum-based measures, state and district assessment results, etc.) and review the progress of the student on current IEP goals. The team should consider input from parents and other teachers about the child and how their current abilities can be utilized when developing the IEP.

Commented [PC5]: IEP teams should summarize any concerns expressed by the parent(s)/guardian as it pertains to their child's academic and functional performance in school. This item should not be left blank, if the parent did not attend the meeting, the team should state that the parent(s)/guardian did not attend.

Commented [PC6]: The IEP team should summarize the parent' s/guardian's (and child's—if available) vision for their future.

Feeling lost? Need a jump start? Give ECAC a call at

1-800-962-6817

C: EC File, Parent/Guardian

Student ID#:

Present Level(s) of Academic and Functional Performance

Complete the current descriptive information by using norm-referenced, criterion-referenced, or any other valid data sources, as well as descriptive information for each of the relevant areas. Include current academic and functional performance, behaviors, social/emotional development, transition and other pertinent information. All areas assessed should be addressed and a determination made as to whether the data indicates an area is in need of specially designed instruction.

AREA(S) IN NEED OF SPECIALLY DESIGNED INSTRUCTION (SDI) must be addressed within the IEP (e.g. annual goals, accommodations, specially-designed instruction, behavior intervention plan, etc.)

Area(s) Assessed	Source of Relevant Information Include date of assessment and baseline data. Scores should be self-explanatory. If not, an explanation must be included.	AREA(S) IN NEED OF SDI Yes / No

Present Level of Performance:



It is VERY important that this information is accurate and up to date, as the present levels serve as the foundation of the IEP.

Area(s) Assessed	Source of Relevant Information Include date of assessment and baseline data. Scores should be self-explanatory. If not, an explanation must be included.	AREA(S) IN NEED OF SDI Yes / No

Present Level of Performance:



We have to know where we are starting from in order to make a plan for getting where we need to be.

Commented [PC8]: Document the data source for the present levels of performance. This not only includes the names of norm or criterion referenced tests, but also includes teacher made tests, interviews, inventories, rating scales, functional behavior assessments, vocational assessment or any other valid data sources.

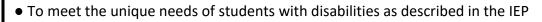
Commented [PC7]: The IEP team should develop a Present Level of Academic and Functional Performance for each area assessed. The IEP Team will determine if the area assessed is in need of specially-designed instruction. The areas should include all general categories of functioning relevant to educational programming and may include academic areas, social-emotional, communication, self-help and prevocational/vocational skills. Academic areas could include written expression, math calculation/reasoning, reading comprehension, and basic reading, listening comprehension, fluency, and oral expressing skills.

Commented [PC9]: If the IEP team indicates that this is an area in need of SDI then a Measurable Annual Goal with corresponding service is required.

Commented [PC10]: Present levels of performance include descriptive information based on norm or criterion referenced data that:

- •Includes specific skill strengths and specific skill deficits
- •Indicates there the student is currently functioning
- Is presented in a manner that is easily understood; and,
 Serves as the basis for the Measurable Annual Goals

Why is Specially Designed Instruction provided to students with disabilities?



- To address gaps and/or accelerate academic, behavioral, and/or functional progress toward age- and grade-level standards
- To ensure a free, appropriate, public education (FAPE)
- To support graduation and meaningful post-secondary outcomes for students with disabilities
- To ensure all school programs, activities, and environments are accessible

Taken directly from the NCDPI 2018 "Considerations for Specially Designed Instruction" Guidance Document



Describe any relevant medical information:

Is there anything "medical" that you want to document. or a diagnosis or **Condition that you want to mention? (Allergies, seizures, asthma, anxiety, etc)**

Describe how the disability impacts involvement and progress in the general curriculum:



The IEP team must determine the current level of impact (aka adverse effect) that the disability has on educational (academic and/or functional) performance in regards to involvement and progress in the general curriculum. Commented [PC11]: The IEP team should summarize the impact of the disability on the child's involvement and progress in the general curriculum. The description should be a current representation of how the disability actually does impact the child's access rather than how it might. This should not be a justification for specific services, modifications or accommodations, location of services, nor a statement of eligibility.

Consideration of Special Factors:	YES / NO	If yes, location in the IEP		
Is the student an English Learner?	9			Commented [PC12]: If the child has limited English Proficiency,
Additional information:				the IEP team must consider the language needs of the child as they relate to the child's IEP.
Does the student have any special communication needs?				Commented [PC13]: The IEP team needs to consider if the
Additional information:				child's language and communication needs could impede the learning of the child. If so, these needs should be considered and addressed as the team develops or revises the IEP.
Does the student require assistive technology devices or services?				Y
Additional information:				Commented [PC14]: The IEP team needs to consider whether the child requires assistive technology devices and services.
Does the student require the instruction in or use of Braille?				Commented [PC15]: In the case of a child who is blind or
Additional information:				visually impaired, the IEP team will use information gathered from a learning media assessment to determine the if the child requires instruction to be provided in Braille.
Does the student have a documented hearing loss? If yes, the IEP Team has considered each of the following using the Communication			لمند	Commented [PC16]: If the child has any documented hearing
Plan Worksheet:				loss, a communication plan must be completed.
 The child's language and communication needs; Opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode Academic level Full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language; and Communication mode. Additional information:				
Additional monnation.				
Does the student have behavior(s) that impede his/her learning or that	9			Commented [PC17]: The IEP team must consider if the child's
of others? If yes, how is behavior being addressed? Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) Behavior goal(s) Accommodations				behavior is impeding his/her learning or that of others. If yes, the behavior needs of the child must be addressed within the IEP.
Additional information:				

What does the Individuals with Disabilities Act state regarding Special Factors?

- (2) Consideration of special factors. The IEP Team must—
- (i) In the case of a child whose **behavior** impedes the child's learning or that of others, consider the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and other strategies, to address that behavior;
- (ii) In the case of a child with limited English proficiency, consider the language needs of the child as those needs relate to the child's IEP;
- (iii) In the case of a child who is **blind or visually impaired**, provide for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille unless the IEP Team determines, after an evaluation of the child's reading and writing skills, needs, and appropriate reading and writing media (including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille), that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the child;
- (iv) Consider the communication needs of the child, and in the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode; and
- (v) Consider whether the child needs assistive technology devices and services. [§300.324(a)(2)]

	Ir	ndividualized Education Program	
	re Adapted Physical Education (APE)?	□ Yes □ No	Commented [PC18]: The IEP team must select yes or no.
Is the student following	the Extended Content Standards?	□ Yes □ No	Commented [PC19]: The IEP team must select yes or no.
If narent(s) everess addit	ncerns	vel / Data Review and Special It a concern? Mention it here	
Supports for academi	ic, functional, personal changes or circ n about the student that will assist in develop	cumstances (if applicable):	Commented [PC20]: The IEP team must indicate any additional
Anything big	happening? Moving? New sibling	g? Surgery? New school?	supports that will be necessary for any personal, academic or functional changes the student will encounter during the life of the IEP.
Secondary Transition	on		
The student is 14 years	s or older or will be during the duration of	the IEP:	Commented [PC21]: This section must be completed for the
	provided information about the studer ests and course of study selection:	nt's needs, strengths,	year in which the child turns 14 years of age or older. The IEP team may complete this section earlier. At age 14, and whenever transition is being considered, the child must be invited to the IEP meeting and sign the IEP as a member of the team.
☐ Student ☐	Parent(s), Guardian(s), and Family Men	nbers	
☐ Adult Service Agence	y Representative: (specify)		
☐ Other: (explain)			
	age 14 (or 8th grade) and updated annua		
	Course of Study: Leading to a NC Diplom pational Course of Study: Leading to a NC		
	tandards: Leading to Graduation Certifica		
Complete beginning	at age 16 (or earlier, as appropriate) a	and updated annually.	Commented [PC22]: If the student will be age 16 or older during the life of this IEP, the following questions must be
level of academic and fur student in making progres	and Supports: based upon age appropriate transition assessectional performance. Indicate any activities a set towards postsecondary goals (after high seesponsible for assuring these activities and/o	nd/or supports needed to assist chool) during the span of this IEP	addressed. The IEP team may complete this section earlier.
	Postsecondary Goals		
Education/Training	After high school, [Student] will:		Commented [PC23]: Based on the results of transition assessments and student input, the IEP team will indicate the post-
Employment	After high school, [Student] will:		secondary education or training goal for the student. Commented [PC24]: Based on the results of transition assessments and student input, the IEP team will indicate the post-
C: EC File, Parent/Guard	ian Stu	udent ID#:	secondary employment goal for the student.



What is Secondary Transition?

Think of Secondary Transition as the process of preparing students with disabilities for adult life after they leave high school. In North Carolina, transition planning begins at age 14, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, as students consider their goals for the time after graduation. Students must be invited to IEP Meetings at age 14 or anytime transition is being considered. (Students are required to receive an invitation via prior written notice, but they are not required to attend)

This is also when IEP teams determine the appropriate course of study for the student. Two options lead to a diploma, and one option leads to a certificate of graduation.

Independent Living (if appropriate)	After high school, [Student] will <u>:</u>			Commented [PC25]: Based on the results of transition assessments and student input, the IEP team will indicate the independent living goal for the student (if applicable).
	Postsecondary Su	pports		Commented [PC26]: In determining post-secondary supports
Transition Services	Transition Activities	Responsible Person(s) or Agency		the team should examine the experiences that the child will need that will assist him/her in obtaining his/her desired post-secondar goals and be prepared for adult life.
Instruction:		Possible options		Commented [PC27]: If an outside agency will be responsible for a specific transition activity, the IEP team must obtain parenta consent to invite a representative to the IEP team meeting prior to sending the invitation to the meeting.
Related Services:		to consider:		Commented [PC28]: Activities that are the responsibility of special education should be reflected in the Measurable Annual Goals.
		Teacher		
Community Experiences:		<u>SLP</u>		Commented [PC29]: Community experiences are those
Experiences.				services that are provided outside the school building, in community settings by schools and other agencies (i.e. communit based work experiences, transportation, independent living
Employment Development:		Student		centers, etc.) The school system or other agencies can provide these services.
		Parent Ver Petrot	_8	
Daily Living Skills: (if appropriate)		Voc Rehab Counselor		
		CAP Provider		120
Functional				Commented [PC30]: A functional vocational evaluation is an assessment that provides information about job/career interests,
Vocational Evaluation: (if appropriate)				aptitudes and skills. It may be gathered through situational assessments, observations, or formal measures. It can be used by the IEP team to refine the services that the student would need.
student have been inform	r younger during the life of this led of his/her rights will transfer	EP, has the parent/guardian(s) and to the child upon reaching age 18?	J 	Commented [PC31]: The IEP team should select yes or N/A.
	r older during the life of this IEP e rights have transferred. □ Y	, the parent/guardian(s) and student		

Measurable Annual Goals

Academic and/or functional goals should be designed to meet the student's unique needs. Goals should be clearly defined and measurable. For students who take alternative assessments aligned to alternative achievement standards, include a description of benchmarks or objectives.



Be sure to include all general categories of functioning relevant to **Security of the end o** communication, self-help and prevocational/vocational skills.





What is the Age of Majority?

The age of majority is the legally defined age at which a person is considered an adult. In North Carolina, 18 is the age of majority. This means that the educational rights, including the rights under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act, transfer from the parent to the student at age 18. (Educational rights remain for parents who have obtained guardianship.)

Beginning at least one year before the child reaches the age of majority, the child's IEP must include a statement that the child has received notice and been told about the rights (if any) that will transfer to him or her at age of majority under §300.520.

Measurable Annual Goals

Individualized Education Program

Specific Area of Need Observable Skills/Behavior	Criteria for Mastery	Method of Measuring Progress	Assistive Technology (y/n)	Related to Transition Goals (y/n)
	Ī.			M. fo

Commented [PC33]: All areas indicating a need for specially designed instruction under "Present Levels of Performance" on the IEP must be addressed in this section. The IEP team should address areas of specially designed instruction rather than subjects or classes.

Specific Area of Need

Observable Skills/Behavior

Observable Skills/Behavior

Criteria for Measuring Progress

Method of Measuring Progress

Technology (y/n)

Related to Transition Goals (y/n)

Commented [PC35]: The IEP team must indicate what criteria the student must meet in order to master the annual goal.

Commented [PC34]: The goal should describe what the student can reasonably be expected to accomplish within the life of this IEP as a result of the provision of special education and related services.

The goals should be written to address the unique needs of the student

(y/n) (y/n)	Observable Skills/Behavior	Criteria for Mastery	Method of Measuring Progress	Assistive Technology (y/n)	Related to Transition Goals (y/n)
-------------	----------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	--

	&

Observable Skills/Behavior	Criteria for Mastery	Method of Measuring Progress	Assistive Technology (y/n)	Related to Transition Goals (y/n)
----------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	--

What is a SMART goal?

Specific

Measurable

Ambitious and Attainable

Realistic

Time-bound

	Criteria	Method of	Assistive	Related to
Observable Skills/Behavior		Measuring Progress	Technology (y/n)	Transition Goals (y/n)
	Mastery			(y/n)

What should the IEP team consider when developing Annual Goals?

- · Special Factors that were identified
- Primary concerns stated on the original referral or current IEP
- Amount of time the student has left in school and the age of the student
- Skills needed to progress to the next level of performance
- Skills needed to succeed throughout the day- including the general curriculum, regular classroom, special education, art, lunch, recess, etc.
- The parent's/student's vision for the future

Service Type

☐ Supplemental Aids/Services

Accommodations/Modifications

☐ Supplemental Aids/Services

Accommodations/Modifications

☐ Supplemental Aids/Services

Accommodations/Modifications

☐ Supplemental Aids/Services Accommodations/Modifications

☐ Supplemental Aids/Services

Accommodations/Modifications

☐ Goal

☐ Goal

□ Goal

Least Restrictive Environment

Description of Specially Designed Instruction and Related Services

Indicate the least restrictive environment in which the student can achieve the goal(s).

Specially Designed Instruction:

Service	Amount of Time in	Frequency	Location	Dura	ation
	Minutes	. roquency		Begin	End
					1
					- 1



Service

This page is where the team will indicate what, where and when **specially designed instruction and related services will be**

Related Services:

Amount

of Time

in

-	Minutes		begin	Ellu
0	Example of Relate	d Services i	include. hu	t are
<u></u>	Example of Related not limited to: Spe	ech Theran	v. audiolog	V
	services, interpre			_
	psychological ser	vices, physi	ical and	
_	occupational there	apy, recrea	tion, includ	<i>ling</i>
	therapeutic recrea	ation, couns	seling serv	ices,
	orientation and m	obility serv	ices, and	
ı		_		

Frequency

Location

provided.

Duration

Commented [PC36]: This section should include a description of all special education to be provided directly to the student. These services include instruction that is provided to a child with a disability by a special education teacher/provider and is designed to meet the educational needs of the eligible child.

Commented [PC37]: The IEP team should indicate the length

Commented [PC381: The IEP team must indicate the number of sessions within an appropriate unit of time needed for the student to obtain mastery of IEP goals. (i.e. week, month, reporting

Commented [PC39]: When indicating the location of services to be provided, the team should indicate either Special Education or General Education as determined not by the specific room, but rather by whom the student is with - disabled or non-disabled peers.

Commented [PC40]: The IEP team should indicate the date on which a specific service will begin and when a specific service will end. This should be reflected as month/day/year.

Commented [PC41]: The IEP team will indicate any related services provided directly to the student by an appropriately licensed provider and is necessary for the student to benefit from their specially designed instruction. They should indicate session length, frequency and location.

Commented [PC42]: The IFP team will determine whether the student's needs can be addressed through a direct service delivery with corresponding goals or through supplemental aids, services, accommodations or modifications.

☐ Transportation is required as a related service.

Describe special transportation services.

school health services.

Commented [PC43]: If the IEP determines that transportation is required as related service, they will describe the specific need and method of service delivery. This may include the child riding a specific handicap accessible bus, paying a parent to transport the child to and from school, or having an attendant ride the regular bus of the child in order to provide support.





Each Local Education Agency "must ensure that-- (i) To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled; and (ii) Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(5); 34 CFR 300.114)"

Taken from the NC Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities

Individualized Education Program

Supplemental Aids/Services/Accommodations/Modifications:

In the space provided, list the subject/activity area in which the student will participate and the supplemental aids, supports, modification, and/or accommodations required (if applicable) to access the general curriculum and make progress toward meeting annual goals. If supplemental aids/services, modifications/accommodations and/or assistive technology will be provided in special education classes, include in the table below.

Specific Area(s) of Need	Supplemental Aids/Services Accommodations/Modifications	Implementation Specifications	Implementation Subject/Activity Areas
	Evory individual involva	d in providing	
	Every individual involved services to your student and understand his or his responsibilities for carry. This will help ensure that receives the needed services the needed services including the specific management.	t should know er rying out the IEP. at your student rvices that have FP team, codifications and	
	accommodations determinecessary.	Mineu to De	

Commented [PC44]: The IEP team should list specific aids, services, modifications and/or supports that are unique to this child that are required for him/her to progress in the general curriculum and meet IEP goals. The team should indicate N/A if none are required. This should not include material and services already in place for all children.

Commented [PC45]: The IEP team should indicate implementation specifics so that no misunderstandings occur- such as the maximum number of students in a small group.

If the student is in preschool, describe how the student is involved in the general education program. \square NA

Supports for school personnel:

Describe consultation and/or training for school staff to meet the unique needs of the student

Not everyone that works with your child will have knowledge and experience in serving students with special needs. Some may need support and/or training.

Commented [PC46]: Consultation is a service which provides the regular classroom teacher needed guidance and support that is unique to the needs of a particular child with a disability in a regular classroom. This consultation can focus on particular teaching strategies, materials, communication methods, etc. that enable an eligible child to be provided an education in a regular classroom with the student's non-disabled peers.



What are Supplemental Aids, Services, Accommodations, and Modifications?

IDEA's definition of this term (at §300.42) reads:

Supplementary aids and services means aids, services, and other supports that are provided in regular education classes, other education-related settings, and in extracurricular and nonacademic settings, to enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate...

Accommodations are supports, adaptations or adjustments to the environment, instruction or materials that allow a student with a disability to access the content or complete assigned tasks. Accommodations do not alter what is being taught.

Modifications is a term used to describe a change in the curriculum or measurement of learning.

Individualized Education Program

State and District-wide Testing:

For each subject tested in the child's grade, choose the method of assessment below. If "with accommodations" is chosen for any subject, provide description of the accommodations for each subject in the right columns. Alternate Assessment, if chosen, must apply to all tests taken.

Statewide Test	District Test	Testing Method	Accommodations	Specifications
		☐ Standard Administration ☐ With Accommodations ☐ Alternate Assessment ☐ Standard Administration ☐ With Accommodations ☐ Alternate Assessment ☐ Standard Administration ☐ With Accommodations ☐ Alternate Assessment ☐ Standard Administration	routinely used a — and similar clas assessments, au place for at leas	nd should be in t thirty (30) school test date to use the
		Accommodations Alternate Assessment Standard Administration With Accommodations Alternate		rds, often referred d Curriculum, can
		Assessment		

Commented [PC47]: The IEP team should determine what accommodations/modifications are needed by the student for any tests in which the student may participate within the life of the IEP. Accommodations and modifications should be designed to meet the unique needs of the student and administered in accordance with the Testing Students With Disabilities Manual provided by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All modifications and accommodations should have clear descriptions so that no misunderstandings occur in this area. The IEP team may not use "as needed" or "at student discretion" but should reflect what will be routinely provided within the educational program.

Alternate Assessment Justification

If the student is participating in any alternate assessment(s), explain why the regular testing program, with or without accommodations, is not appropriate, and why the assessment is appropriate.

The NCEXTEND1 is a performance-based alternate assessment designed to assess students with significant cognitive disabilities who are being taught using the Extended Content Standards.

Least Restrictive Environment Justification

If the student will be removed from nondisabled peers for any part of the day, explain why the services cannot be delivered with nondisabled peers with the use of supplemental aids and services.

Use this space to document any reasons why the student's needs require special education services outside of the general education. The LRE statement should explain why the services cannot be delivered with nondisabled peers with use of supplemental aids and services.

□ N/A The student will not be removed from nondisabled peers.

Commented [PC48]: If the IEP team has determined that the student meets the participation criteria for Alternate Assessments (see Testing Students With Disabilities Manual provided by NCDPI), the team must describe why the alternate assessment is the most appropriate assessment based upon the unique needs of the student.

Commented [PC49]: The IEP team will provide a statement with specific reasons why the child is being removed from the regular class and not being educated with typical peers. The statement should not be a summary of the services provided, but rather an explanation of why the student cannot remain in and participate in regular classes with non-disabled peers using appropriate modifications and accommodations. This statement must be based on the unique needs of the student rather than a particular disability category, service delivery location, etc.

How do IEP teams determine if the NCEXTED1 is appropriate for a student?

IEP teams must determine if a student is eligible to take the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment. Only students who are instructed using the Extended Content Standards in ELA, Math, and Science are eligible. The Extended Content Standards are considered for students who:

- have a significant cognitive disability
- whose disability significantly impacts adaptive behaviors, defined as those skills which are essential for someone to live and function independently
- requires extensive and repeated individualized instruction and support
- use substantially adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways

Individualized Education Program

Progress Reports:

Progress Reports on IEP goals will be issued in accordance with school report card schedule. (If the IEP team determines that more frequent progress reports are needed, indicate the schedule below:)

Need into sooner? Or more often? Say so here.

Extended School Year Status:

ESY worksheet must be completed.

- ☐ Is not eligible for extended school year based on current data
- ☐ Is eligible for extended school year
- ☐ Eligibility is under consideration and will be determined by: ____/___/

IED	Team	Dorti	ain.	nnte
IEF	ream	rai u	CID	41112

The following individuals were present and participated in the IEP Team decision. (A Request to Excuse Required IEP Team Member(s) has been obtained if any of the below participants are identified as excused. Note with an asterisk (*) any team member who used alternative means to participate.)

ame	Position	Date
	Parent/Guardian/Student	
Your signature does not	Parent/Guardian/Student	
mean that you agree, it - only means that you	LEA Representative	
were present and	Special Education Teacher	
participated. Not	General Education Teacher	b:
signing does not stop —	Interpreter of Instructional Implications	52
the IEP from being	of Evaluations	
<i>implemented as written.</i>		

Commented [PC50]: The IEP team must complete an ESY worksheet to determine if the student is eligible for extended school year services. If the decision is not being made at this meeting, the IEP team should determine the date the decision for extended school year services will be made. It is recommended that the decision whether a child needs extended school year services or not should occur closer to the time when extended school year services will be offered.



What is Extended School Year?

Extended School Year or ESY refers to special education and related services that are provided to eligible students beyond the normal school year, based on the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). ESY is not summer school! Services are based on each child's unique needs, so they range widely in terms of the type of service and how it is delivered. ESY services are often intended to help the child *maintain* their skills, not make progress. For example, a child may only get physical therapy, and just enough to maintain their range of motion.

During the development of each new IEP, the team must decide if the student is, or is not eligible for ESY services. Some of the key things for the IEP team to consider are:

- Whether the student regresses, or slides backward, during long breaks from instruction, and takes an unusually long time to relearn lost skills, or
- Whether there is a risk that a long break will erase most of the gain that the student made during the regular school, or
- Whether the student is showing that they are beginning to learn a critical skill, and the "window of opportunity" might be lost if there are long breaks from instruction.