



COVID-19 and Students with Disabilities

We recognize this is a challenging time for students, parents, and educators so here is some helpful information that may assist during this period.

- Work collaboratively with your school's team to ensure IEPs are followed and keep in regular contact.
- Understand the delivery of service may look different during the school's closure period(s).
- Reach out to an advocate for advice and recommendations if you are concerned or have specific questions. Advocacy resources are listed below.

Things to Know

- School districts must still comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and provide students with FAPE (free appropriate public education).
- There are no waivers permitted for IDEA during the school closure period. If you are asked to sign a waiver, do not sign, and contact the Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center (NDALC), or another advocacy group.
- School teams should continue to collect data during distance and/or remote learning.
- Parents should also collect their own data during this time. Record your observations and share them with your school's IEP team. Document areas where you see your child struggling with a previously mastered skill, as well as any other concerns and relay this information to the school's team.
- Electronic delivery of signatures is accepted for IEP documents and evaluations.
- Evaluation and IEP timelines are still in place with some flexibilities permitted.
- Remedies such as State complaint or due process are available for IDEA violations.

Compensatory or Recovery Services

If students have regressed or lost skills, school teams should consider compensatory or recovery services, which are different than compensatory education for denial of FAPE. These services are not calculated on a minute for minute basis on instruction lost, but rather based on the individualized needs of the student. Services may be awarded by an IEP team or another school district administrator. If you believe your child needs compensatory or recovery services, make a written request to begin the discussion with the school.

If your child has an IEP and you have questions about services during the pandemic period, please contact Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center to speak with an advocate.

Resources:

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC)(Statewide)

888-349-3843 or 800-992-5715

www.ndalc.org

Nevada PEP (Statewide)

800-216-5188

www.nvpep.org

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas area)

702-386-1070

www.lacsn.org