



DEPARTMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

**EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES
FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Fast Fact # 14 (2/08)

WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

The Federal Register, implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, defines Extended School Year (ESY) services for students with disabilities as follows:

- Extended School Year (ESY) services means special education and related services that are provided to a child with a disability beyond the normal school year, in accordance with the child's IEP, at no cost to the parents of the child and meets the standards of the Florida Department of Education.
- Extended School Year (ESY) services must be provided only if a child's IEP Team determines, on an individual basis, that the services are necessary for the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE).

NOTE:

- Not all ESE students require Extended School Year (ESY) services.
- ESE teachers conduct a review in the fall to assist students with any regression that may have occurred during the summer months.
- Extended School Year (ESY) services are not equivalent to Summer School.
- Extended School Year (ESY) services does not necessarily mean services provided daily or weekly at school.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUMMER SCHOOL AND ESY SERVICES?

SUMMER SCHOOL	ESY SERVICES
<p>Eligibility is based on criteria set by the district.</p> <p>Students, including those with disabilities, may attend if they meet criteria established by the school district.</p> <p>Summer school curriculum for all students is provided based on the eligibility criteria and is focused on academic instruction.</p>	<p>Determination is based on whether skills achieved over the school year, as documented on the IEP, would be significantly jeopardized if ESY services were not provided.</p> <p>Students with disabilities are provided ESY services if the IEP Team determines a need for the services based on the individual needs of the student.</p> <p>ESY services are decided by the IEP Team and may be different than those services provided during the regular school year.</p>

The determination of whether a child with a disability needs ESY services must be made on an individual basis in accordance with the IEP process. Based upon data and documentation, the IEP Team must consider the following:

- Whether there will be significant or substantial regression of critical life skills
- Whether the regression in skills learned by the student during the school year could be recouped during the normal period of review and reteaching at the beginning of the next school year. Skills need to be reflected on the current IEP. It is important that data and documentation be collected on regression and recoupment of IEP goals during breaks such as winter holidays, spring break and the previous summer. Data may include but is not limited to: pattern of regression after breaks; pre/post tests after breaks; reports of progress toward annual goals; report cards; therapy logs; work sheets; anecdotal records

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who determines the need for ESY services?

The IEP Team determines if a student with disabilities requires ESY services.

2. When are ESY services needed?

All children may regress and need to regain skills after school breaks. For ESE students who regress and need more time than their non-disabled peers to regain skills, ESY services may be needed as determined by the IEP Team.

3. How is it determined that ESY services are needed?

The determination of whether a child with a disability needs ESY services must be made on an individual basis in accordance with the IEP process. Based upon data and documentation, the IEP Team must consider the following:

- The skills reflected on the current IEP
- Whether there will be significant or substantial regression of critical life skills
- Whether the regression in skills learned by the student during the current school year could be recouped during the normal period of review and reteaching at the beginning of the next school year
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4. What are some factors to be considered?

- The degree to which a child may suffer an excessive degree of regression during the period of time that the student is not in school
- The degree to which it would take an unreasonable or unacceptable amount of time for the child to recover from any regression in skills that may have occurred The degree of regression that has previously occurred during breaks such as winter holidays, spring break or the previous summer
- Whether there are specific goals and objectives that require ESY services
- The ability of the parents to provide educational structure at home
- The student's rate of progress
- The availability of alternative resources
- The ability of the student to interact with nondisabled students
- Areas of the curriculum that require continuous attention
- Whether the student participates in the Extended Learning Program

5. When are ESY services not appropriate?

- ESY services are not appropriate for the introduction of new skills and concepts
- ESY services are not for the purpose of providing recreational activities
- ESY services are not for the purpose of replacing community or home childcare supervision and activities.
- ESY services cannot be based upon district and school personnel convenience

6. Are related services provided during ESY?

- Yes. Related services are provided to the extent that they are needed to assist the student with maintaining the goals and objectives selected for ESY services.

7. What are some ways that ESY services can be provided?

ESY services will vary in type, intensity, location and length of time depending on the student's needs. While there is a legal obligation to consider ESY needs for every student with an IEP, not every student will need extended school year services.

Based upon the type and intensity of instruction that the IEP Team determines is required, services may be delivered in a variety of ways. Service delivery may include:

- Consultation (i.e. phone conference between district personnel and parent)
- Training/assistance to parents (i.e. academic practice techniques)
- Take-home maintenance packets (i.e. academic activities, fine motor activities)
- Tutorial services (i.e. 1-2 week sessions)
- Resource services (part-time small group instruction)
- Therapeutic services (i.e., speech therapy, OT, PT)
- Special class services (to support the needs of students served in a full time program)

8. Where can I get more information about ESY services?

Additional information may be obtained by calling your District Area Office or Velasco Student Services Center ESE personnel. The ESE Telephone Hotline at 273-7221 is also available as a resource for more information.