SCHOOL RE-OPENING

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

DISABILITY TASK FORCE

10/22/2020
• Health and safety remain the priority

• Parent input and ongoing communication required

• All IEP services must be provided (in-school or remote)

• Parent choice about attending school in–person
HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS MUST ACCOMMODATE DISABILITY

• Desks at least 3 feet apart (6 feet if possible)
• Masks required 2nd grade and older
• Handwashing required
• Staff PPE and Training
PARENT INPUT & NOTIFICATION

• Regular, ongoing 2-way communication in parents’ primary language
• IEP Teams must consider parent information about child’s experiences during COVID-19
• Schools must notify family in writing about changes in how IEP services will be provided:
  ➢ COVID-19 Special Education Learning Plan
  ➢ All communications must be in parents’ home language
IN-PERSON LEARNING

PRESCHOOLERS and STUDENTS WITH SIGNIFICANT AND COMPLEX NEEDS:

- Identified as “high needs” on IEP form
- Can’t engage in remote learning
- Use AAC (Augmentative Alternative Communication)
- Who are homeless
- In foster care or congregate care
- Students with disabilities who are English Learners
REMOTE LEARNING
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

• Students **must** receive direct instruction and services
• Schools must fully implement IEP
• Regular and consistent schedule for each student
• Consider home and community in-person services
• Effective, ongoing two-way communication with parents
COVID–19 COMPENSATORY SERVICES

IEP meetings by December 15 for students likely needing compensatory services:

- Students with complex and significant needs
- Preschoolers with evaluation or service delays
- Students who turned 22 between March 15-December 23
- Students who didn’t receive or access any IEP services
RESOURCES

- Contact MAC’s Helpline: (617) 357-8431 or massadvocates.org/helpline
- Visit MAC COVID-19 Information Clearinghouse massadvocates.org/covid19
- File a PRS complaint or BSEA mediation
- View our NEW Sample Email for Requesting In-Person Special Education Services
- View our Q&A on Special Education and Fall Re-opening
- View our NEW Q&A on Special Education COVID Compensatory Services
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @MassAdvocates
  - Join MAC Autism Connections on Facebook!