



Parent Advocacy Network

*Empowering families, professionals,
and others interested in the well-being
and education of children and youth*

In this fact sheet:

- ***What should you know about providing distance learning for your child?***
- ***Can your child still receive his/her related services?***
- ***What are compensatory services?***
- ***Helping Your Child to Learn***
- ***Resource Links***

{And more}

SPAN

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SPAN FACT SHEET

DISTANCE LEARNING TOOLS FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

What should you know about providing distance learning for your child?

Parents should establish a communication method with the teachers in their children's schools to assist with the home learning. Communication can include email, telephone, cell phone, text etc. Teachers, therapists, and other faculty have office hours during this Coronavirus outbreak to assist students and parents.

If you do not have the appropriate equipment at home to work with your children, contact the principal or superintendent in your school districts for help. If you do not have internet service, Altice USA 973-659-2200 and Comcast 800-266-2270 are providing free internet access and other various measures for communities affected by school closures. Please contact these companies for more information.

Can your child still receive their related services?

Your child's school must make every effort to provide special education and related services in accordance with your child's individualized education program (IEP) or for students entitled to services under their Section 504 plan. On April 1, 2020, the New Jersey state Board of Education voted unanimously to approve emergency changes in the state administrative code to allow students with disabilities to receive their special education services remotely while schools are closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. For questions regarding your child's related services, reach out to your child's case manager by phone and follow up with an email.

[Providing Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities During Extended School Closures as a Result of COVID-19](#)

What are compensatory services?

If a school district does not provide the services per your child's IEP or 504 plan, compensatory services may be a consideration. Compensatory services can be provided to students with disabilities to make up for loss of free and appropriate public education (FAPE).

See SPAN Tracking Sheet:

Sample letters regarding compensatory services:

- Sample Letter - General: <https://spanadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Sample-Letter-Comp-Svs-GENERAL.pdf>

- Sample Letter - Transition: <https://spanadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Sample-Letter-Comp-Svs-Transition.pdf>

- Sample Letter - ESY: <https://spanadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Sample-Letter-Comp-Svs-ESY.pdf>

VISIT US ONLINE @ spanadvocacy.org

Helping Your Child to Learn

Motivation is the starting point of working with your child.

- Think about all the favorite things that interest your child. Use whatever motivates them to do their very best.
- Give your child breaks in between subjects and try to align their home routine with their school schedule.
- Provide a consistent location in your home where the child works every day without distractions.
- Some students benefit from the use of visual aids to complete and understand their assignments. Some visual aids can help with the morning routine and supporting communication.
- Think about what excites them or makes them laugh and use it as an incentive or reward.
- Allow them to choose their own activities.
- Listen to your child's concerns.
- Be patient as your child is adjusting to this new home learning routine.
- Resist the temptation to help your child with all of their work. This is an opportunity to see what classwork they can do independently.

Resource Links

Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR) - Schooling at Home

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/coronavirus-resources/#homeschool>

CPIR - Supporting Challenging Behaviors at Home

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/behavior-at-home/>

Understood - School Closing and Distance Learning

<https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/coronavirus-latest-updates#>

SchoolVirtually has resources for educators and families to support all learners including students with disabilities and language learners.

<http://www.schoolvirtually.org/>

Visual schedules <https://adayinourshoes.com/free-printable-visual-schedules-for-home-and-daily-routines/>.

More To ADHD - Strategies to use at home

<https://www.moretoadhd.com/adhd-resources/#strategies-at-home>

Additude Magazine - ADHD, Autism and Anxiety are Upending our Efforts to Homeschool while Working from Home! <https://www.additudemag.com/adhd-autism-anxiety-pandemic-homeschooling/>

Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules - COVID-19 Toolkit

<https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/supporting-individuals-autism-through-uncertain-times>

The Meadow Center - Videos to help families use effective practices to teach students at home <https://www.meadowscenter.org/library/resource/helping-your-kid-with>

Khan Academy – Resources to keep learning for preschool through twelfth grade

<https://www.khanacademy.org>

SCHOOLING AT HOME

With school closures, most everywhere, parents and family members have taken on the mega-task of teaching their children at home. This may involve coordinating with the school for students to access classes being taught remotely, supervising their child's attendance and school work, or designing their own educational activities for their child or children. Home schooling is especially challenging when disabilities affect learning. This section of the Center for Parent Information and Resources COVID-19 suite is directed primarily at parents and families, and emphasizes readily available tools, materials, and curricula that parents can access in providing home schooling.

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/cv19-schooling-at-home/>

LEARN MORE

U.S. Department of Education Releases Webinar, Fact Sheet for Protecting Students' Civil Rights during COVID-19 Response

Department of Education Affirms State and District Obligations to provide Special Education during School Closures

<https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/u-s-department-education-affirms-state-district-obligation-provide-special-education-school-closures/>

NJ Department of Education

Guiding the Education Community through the COVID-19 Pandemic - Special Education

<https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/sped/spacial.ed.shtml>

FAQs

[https://www.nj.gov/education/topics/COVID19%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20\(FAQ\)%20Related%20to%20School%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Plans.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/education/topics/COVID19%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20(FAQ)%20Related%20to%20School%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Plans.pdf)



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