

### **ESY is....**

- Based only on the individual student's specific critical skills that are critical to his /her overall education progress as determined by the IEP team.
- Designed to maintain student mastery of critical skills and objectives represented on the IEP and achieved during the regular school year.
- Designed to maintain a reasonable readiness to begin the next year.
- Focused on specific critical skills where regression, due to extended time off, may occur.
- Based on multi-criteria and not on a single factor.

### **ESY is NOT ...**

- A mandated 12-month service for all students with disabilities.
- A summer recreation program for students with disabilities.
- Required solely when a child fails to achieve IEP goals and objectives during the school year.
- To be considered in order to help students with disabilities advance in relation to their peers.
- For making up for poor attendance during regular school year.

### ***If my child qualifies for ESY last year, will he/she continue to receive services each year?***

ESY services may be offered only if a student's IEP team discusses and determines on an individual basis that ESY is necessary for the provisions of a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to the student. The decision must be evaluated annually based on data collected and analyzed. ESY services are not required for every student with disabilities every year.

### ***If my child qualifies for ESY must he/she attend?***

Participation is not mandatory. There are no legal consequences if a student does not attend ESY.

### ***If the IEP Team determines that ESY is necessary for my child, will he/she receive the same supports and services as he/she does during the regular school year?***

The IEP Team will identify the area(s) of need based on existing goal(s) and determine the supports and services necessary to address the goal(s) during ESY. The time and frequency of these supports and services may differ from those delivered during the regular school year.

### **If you have any questions or concerns**

#### **Special Services**

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## Extended School Year

### **(ESY) Services for Students with Disabilities**

### A Parent's Guide





## EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES

Extended school year (ESY) services are special education and related services that are provided to a student with a disability beyond the regular school year in accordance with the student's IEP. The need for ESY services must be determined annually on the individual basis by the IEP Team.

ESY is considered a strategy for minimizing regression of skill in order to shorten the time required to gain the same level of skill proficiency that existed at the end of the school year. The purpose of ESY services is to assist students in maintaining the skills at risk of regression or for students with severe disabilities to attain critical skills or self-sufficiency goals essential to the student's continued progress.

It is not a means to develop or enhance new skills. It is not to provide students with disabilities with education beyond that which is prescribed in his/her IEP goals and objectives.

An IEP Team may determine ESY is necessary when:

- 1 a student with disabilities demonstrates significant regression corresponding with limited recoupment of previously achieved skills;
- 2 a loss of critical skills for students accessing the alternate curriculum; or
- 3 special circumstances or other factors that indicate the need for ESY services.

**REGRESSION** refers to how much knowledge or how many skills a student loses due to a break in the regular school year.

**RECOUPMENT** refers to a student's ability and corresponding length of time required to relearn knowledge or skills previously achieved

**CRITICAL SKILLS for students with severe disabilities** refers to independent functioning skills. Development of these skills can lead to reduced dependency on future caretakers and enhance student's integration with nondisabled students.

TIP: Please bring any information that might be helpful in making the decision such as a log of your child's performance after breaks, pertinent medical updates or other information that may be useful.

