School District Planning and Implementation: The Updated MA IEP Form and Process

November 9, 2023

Massachusetts Association of School Committees/Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Joint Conference

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Office of Special Education Planning and Policy Development



Today's Agenda

- Overview of the IEP Improvement Project and Rationale
- Key Features of the New IEP and Timeline
- Policy, Fiscal, and Strategic Planning Considerations

From DESE's Educational Vision:

DESE works with districts, schools, and educators to promote teaching and learning that is antiracist, inclusive, multilingual, and multicultural; that values and affirms each and every student and their families; and that creates equitable opportunities and experiences for all students, particularly those who have been historically underserved.

Educational Vision – Short Version

In districts, schools, and programs across the Commonwealth:

- All students are known and valued
- All students excel at grade-level work, with individualized supports
- Learning experiences are relevant, real-world, and interactive





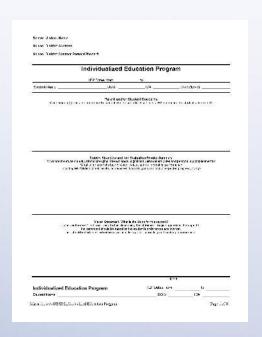
Overview of the IEP Improvement Project and Rationale

What Do These Things Have in Common?

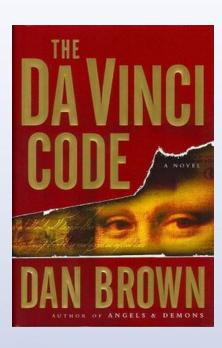
Nokia 1100



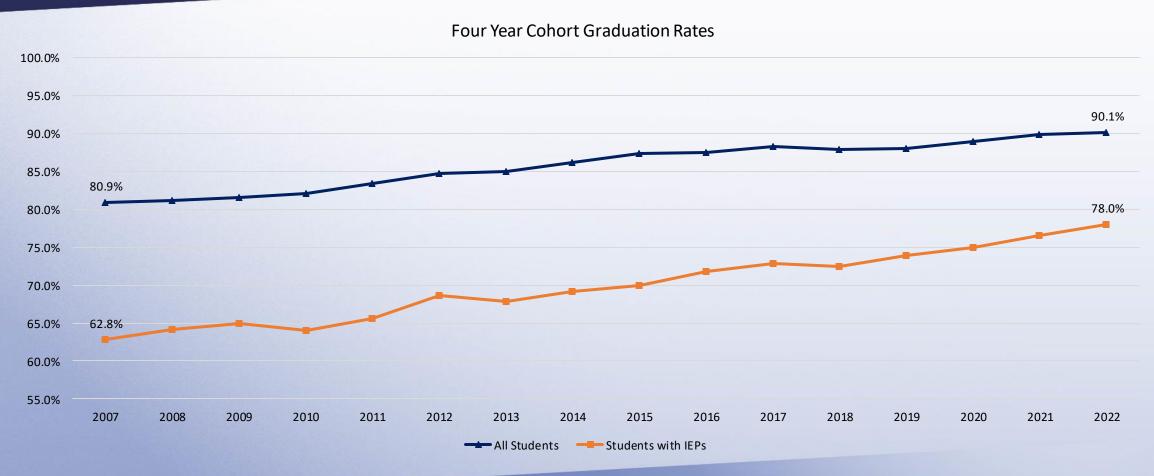
MA IEP 1-8



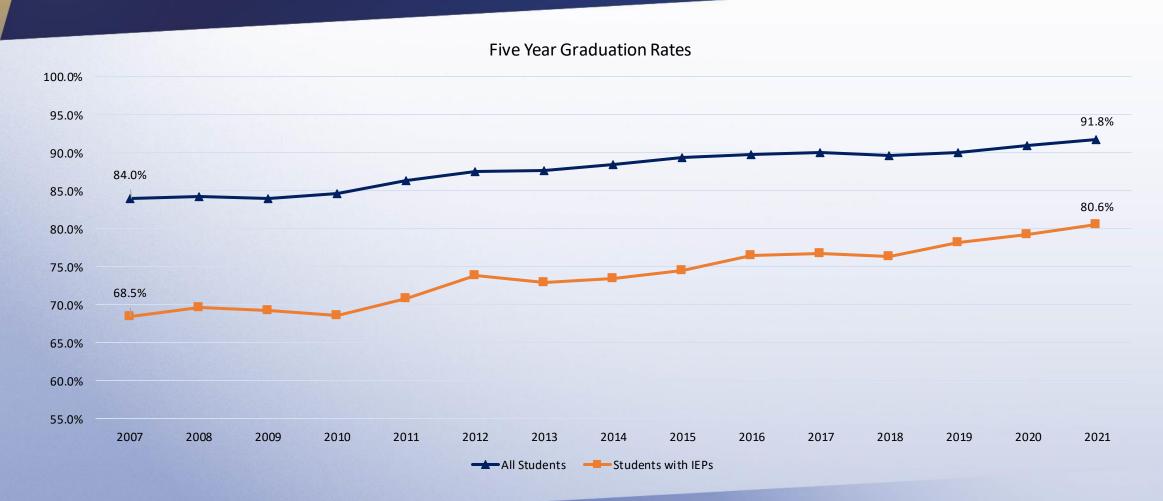
The DaVinci Code



Graduation Rates for Students with IEPs

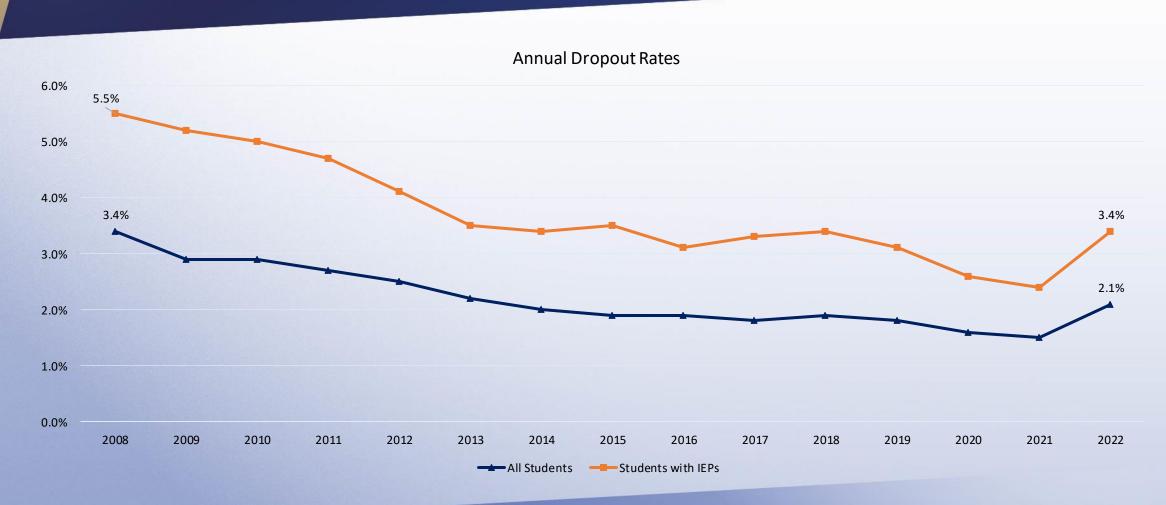


Graduation Rates for Students with IEPs

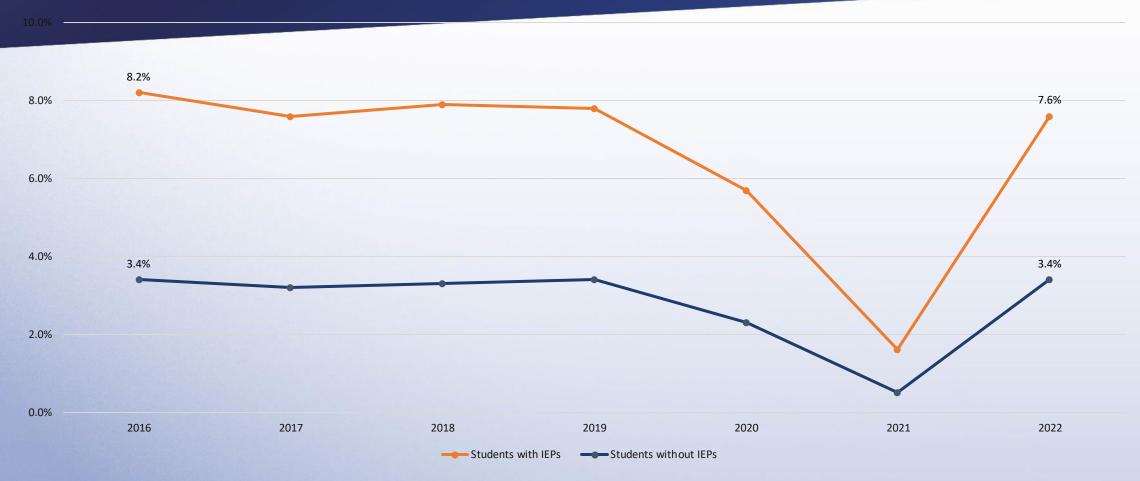


Massachusetts Department of Elementary and

Dropout Rates for Students with IEPs

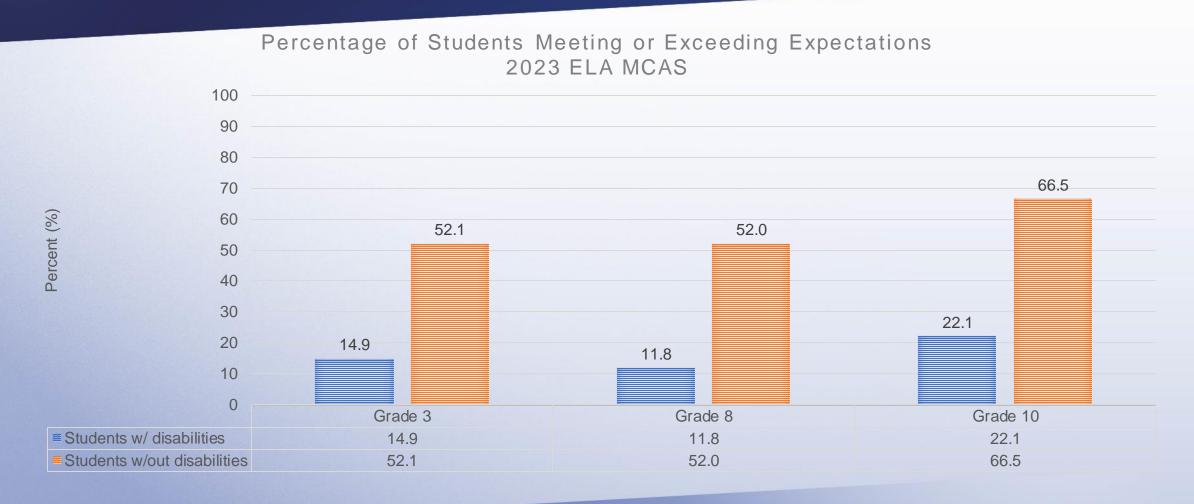


Discipline Rates: 2016-2022

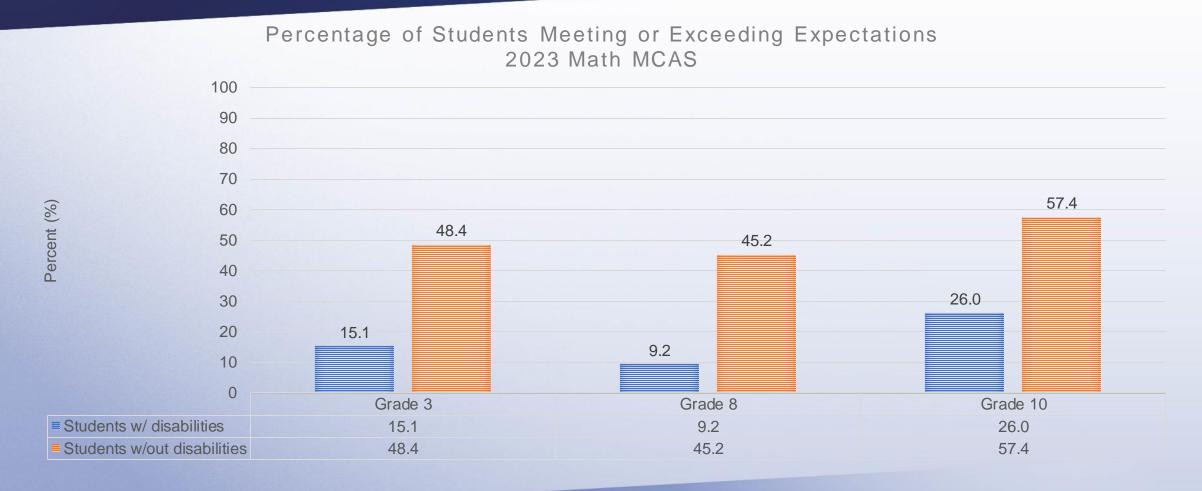




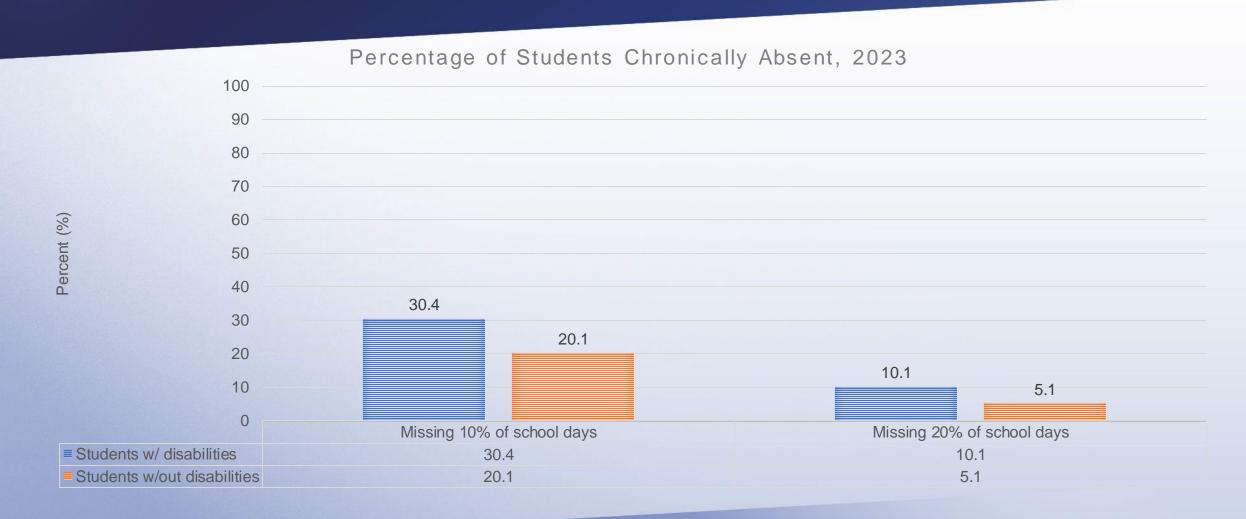
2023 ELA MCAS Results



2023 MCAS Math Results



2023 Chronic Absenteeism Rates



IEP Project Goals

To improve outcomes for all students with disabilities by providing guidance, technical assistance, and tools on equitable processes to school and district professionals, families, and students so that all students with disabilities have meaningful access to the curriculum frameworks and life of the school.

Areas of Focus for Improved IEP Form

Family and student voice

Form documents process

Least Restrictive Environment

Integrated transition planning

Accessibility of language



What is **Not** Changing?

Education Laws and Regulations

State Regulations State Laws Federal Laws **Legal Advisories Arbitration Awards Litigation Reports**

603 CMR 28.00

Special Education

Section:

28.01: Authority, Scope and Purpose

28.02: Definitions

28.03: Administration and Personnel

28.04: Referral and Evaluation

28.05: The Team Process and Development of the IEP

28.06: Placement and Service Options

28.07: Parent Involvement

28.08: Continuum of Options for Dispute Resolution

28.09: Approval of Public or Private Day and Residential Special Educ

28.10: School District Responsibility

View All Sections





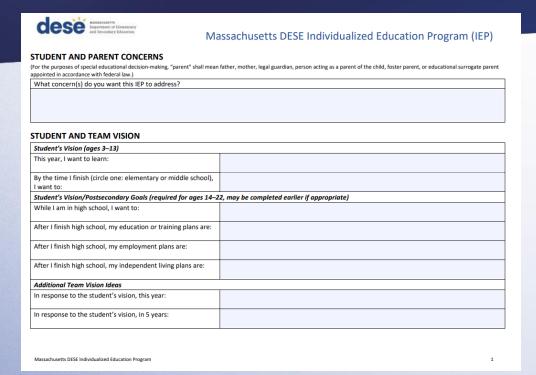
Key Features of the New IEP and Timeline



IEP Improvement Process Timeline

Winter 2023 Spring 2023 SY 23-24 Fall 2023 Fall 2024 **Finalized** Initial Continued Full Initial Forms and **Training Training** Adoption Adoption Statewide Tech for (at and **Technical** discretion Schools Specs **Assistance** of schools and **Districts** and districts)

Accessing the Form and Related Documents





Linked Here

Linked Here



STUDENT AND PARENT CONCERNS (For the purposes of special educational decision-making, "parent" shall mean fappointed in accordance with federal law.)	ather, mother, legal guardian, person acting as a parent of the child, foster parent, or educational surrogate parent
What concern(s) do you want this IEP to address?	
What concern(s) do you want this it to address:	
STUDENT AND TEAM VISION	
Student's Vision (ages 3–13)	
This year, I want to learn:	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Duth a time of finish (simple and a short on an ariddle ask and)	
By the time I finish (circle one: elementary or middle school),	
I want to:	
Student's Vision/Postsecondary Goals (required for ages 14–22	?, may be completed earlier if appropriate)
While I am in high school, I want to:	
11	
After I finish high school, my education or training plans are:	
After I finish high school, my employment plans are:	
After I finish high school, my independent living plans are:	
Arter Hillish high school, my independent hving plans are.	
<u> </u>	
Additional Team Vision Ideas	
In response to the student's vision, this year:	
In response to the student's vision, in 5 years:	

STUDENT PROFILE		
The student is identified as having the foll	owing disability or disabilities. Include all that	apply.
☐ Autism	☐ Health Impairment	☐ Sensory Impairment
☐ Communication Impairment	☐ Intellectual Impairment	☐ Hearing
☐ Developmental Delay (ages 3–9)	☐ Neurological Impairment	□ Vision
☐ Emotional Impairment	☐ PhysicalImpairment	☐ Deaf-Blind
		☐ Specific Learning Disability
English Learner Has the student been identified as an English learner Yes No If yes, describe the student's English Learner Educe benchmarks:	ation program, English as a Second Language service	s, and progress toward English language proficiency
benchmarks:		
Identify any language needs and consider how they	relate to the student's IEP:	
Active Table day		
Assistive Technology Does the student require assistive technology device	os or services?	
☐ Yes ☐ No	es of services!	
If yes, this need will be addressed in the following so		
Accommodations/Modifications	Services D	Delivery Grid
Goals/Objectives	Additional Additional	al Information
	,	

Briefly describe current academic performance. Check all that apply: English Language Arts History and Social Sciences	Strengths, interest areas, and preferences	Impact of student's disability on involvement and progress in the general education curriculum or appropriate preschool activities
MathScience, Technology, and Engineering		
Autism-Specific Question: Does the student have needs resu	ulting from the discability that impact progress in the gone	ral curriculum including social and emotional
development (e.g., organizational support, generalizing ski		rai curriculum, meluumg social and emotional

PRESENT LEVELS OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND FUNCTIONAL PERFORMANCE: COMMUNICATION

Briefly describe current communication performance.	Strengths, interest areas, and preferences	Impact of student's disability on involvement and progress in the general education curriculum or appropriate preschool activities
Does the student require the use of augmentative and al limited speech.	ternative communication (AAC)? Consider any AAC need	ls for non-speaking students or those with
☐ Yes ☐ No		
If yes, describe how the Team will address the student's i	needs (including acquiring, designing, customizing, main	ntaining, repairing, and/or replacing AAC
device/system).		
☐ The student needs an AAC device/system at school		
	or in other non-school settings to receive a free approp	oriate public education.
☐ The student needs training and/or technical assist	• •	
☐ The student's family needs training and/or techni	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	hui sal a saista u sa sau sauri a stha AAC
device/system.	ers who work with the student need training and/or tecl	nnical assistance concerning the AAC
These needs will be addressed in the following section(s)	of the IED:	
Accommodations/Modifications	Services Delivery G	Grid
Goals/Objectives	Additional Informa	
Autism-Specific Question: Does the student have needs i	n the areas of verbal and nonverbal communication, inc	cluding but not limited to those identified in assistive
technology/AAC evaluation(s)?		
☐ Yes ☐ No		
If yes, these needs will be addressed in the following sec	ction(s) of the IEP:	
Accommodations/Modifications	Services Delivery Gr	rid
☐ Goals/Objectives	☐ Additional Informat	tion

Additional Areas, as Applicable	Strengths, interest areas,	, and preferences	Impactor students disability on involvement and
(such as activities of daily living, health, hearing,			progress in the general education curriculum or
motor, sensory, and vision)			appropriate preschool activities
Briefly describe current performance and any			
applicable documentation.			
Please note that parent(s) are only asked to share			
health information voluntarily.			
eaf or Hard of Hearing			
The student is deaf or hard of hearing, and their I	anguage and communication n	eeds will be addressed	l in the following section(s) of the IEP:
Accommodations/Modifications		Services Delivery	Grid
Goals/Objectives		Additional Inform	nation
ind or Visually Impaired (including Cortical Visual Impai	rment)	I	
Braille is needed and will be addressed in the follo	owing section(s) of the IFP:		
Accommodations/Modifications	80000001(0) 01 010121	Services Delivery	v Grid
Goals/Objectives		Additional Inform	
Screen readers or other assistive technology are n	eeded and will be addressed in	n the following section	(s) of the IEP:
Accommodations/Modifications		Services Delivery	
Goals/Objectives		Additional Inform	
Orientation and mobility services are needed and	will be addressed in the follow	 	
Accommodations/Modifications		Services Delivery	
Goals/Objectives			
		Additional Inform	nation

Postse condary Transition Briefly describe current performance.	Strengths,	interest areas, and preferences	the general educatio	n curriculum
			and/or specificarea of transition	·
Education/training				
Employment				REMINDER!
Community experiences/postschool				The transition pages
independent living, if applicable				will only be used
The identified areas of postsecondary transition will be	addres sed in the f	following section(s) of the IEP:		when the IEP team i
Accommodations/Modifications		Services Delivery G	irid	engaging in post-
Goals/Objectives		Additional Informa	ition	secondary transition
Projected date of graduation/program completion:				
Projected date of graduation, program completion. Projected type of completion document (diploma, cer of attainment, or other locally defined completion document):	tificate			planning.
Planned Course of Study	-		<i>ν</i>	
Vhat requirements does the student need to meet to r	eceive the type of	completion document above? \	What is the student's planned c	ourse of study?
				V
	those requiremen	. 2		

Agency	Description of Support Provided	Role and contact information of school staff who will be the liaison to the agency
RANSFER OF RIGHTS TO STUDEN		
udent when the student turns 18. Is the subset \square Yes \square No		
udent when the student turns 18. Is the s \(\subseteq \text{ Yes} \subseteq \text{No} \) In what date was the student provided wi	d at least 1 year before the student's 18th birthday that student 17 or will they turn 17 during the timeframe of the time frame of the time frame of the the notice of transfer of rights and a copy of procedule.	this IEP? ural safeguards concerning special education rights?
tudent when the student turns 18. Is the s	d at least 1 year before the student's 18th birthday that student 17 or will they turn 17 during the timeframe of t	this IEP? ural safeguards concerning special education rights?

omplete for student who has turned 18. Please indicate	the decision-making option that the student or court-appointed legal guardian has selected:
The student will make their own educational decisio	ons.
The student will share decision-making with their parallel individual with whom the student will share decision	
The student has delegated decision-making to their p	parent, caregiver, or other adult.
Individual to whom the student has delegated deci	ision-making:
A court has appointed a legal guardian for the studer	nt who will make educational decisions.
A court has appointed a legal guardian for the studer Name of court-appointed legal guardian:	nt who will make educational decisions.
Name of court-appointed legal guardian:	nt who will make educational decisions.
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination:	
Name of court-appointed legal guardian:	
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special	
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: FRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL □ Yes
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Ves No
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student meets the criteria for a 688 referral?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes No
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student meets the criteria for a 688 referral?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student meets the criteria for a 688 referral?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes No Yes No
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student meets the criteria for a 688 referral? Has a 688 referral been submitted for this student?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes No Yes No
Name of court-appointed legal guardian: Date of determination: TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICE AGENCY OR Is the student within 2 years of exiting special education services? If yes, has the Team discussed whether the student meets the criteria for a 688 referral? Has a 688 referral been submitted for this student?	AGENCIES—688 REFERRAL Yes No Yes No Yes No

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Accommodations: List the accommodations the student needs to make progress in the areas of academic achievement and functional performance. Leave blank any boxes that are not appropriate for the student.

	Presentation of Instruction The way information is presented.	Response The way the student responds.	Timing and/or Scheduling The timing and scheduling of the instruction.	Setting and/or Environment The characteristics of the setting.
Classroom accommodations				
Nonacademic settings (lunch, recess, etc.)				
Extracurricular activities				
Community/workplace				

Modifications: List the modifications, if any, that are needed to the student's programs of they can meet their goals, make progress, and participate in activities alongside students with and without disabilities. Leave blank any boxes that are not appropriate for the student.

	Content	Instruction	Student Output
Classroom modifications			
Nonacademic settings (lunch, recess, etc.)			
Extracurricular activities			
Community/workplace			

-	DE ASSESSMENT/ALTERNATE ASS sessments planned during the IEP period.		SS (Grades K–12), etc.
•			·
	state and/or districtwide assessments?		
·	emand assessment with no accommodation	s under routine conditions in all cont	entareas.
☐ The student participates in on-de	emand assessment with accommodations.		
Please indicate which testing accom	nmodations the student requires:		
English Language Arts	Math	Science	Other
\square The student participates in state i	and/or districtwide alternate assessment(s)		
Please select the subject(s) below in	n which the student needs alternate assessr	nent(s). Please explain why the stude	nt needs alternate assessment(s), and why
the alternate assessment you have		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
☐ English Language Arts	☐ Math	☐ Science	☐ Alternate Access for ELLs
Explanation:	Explanation:	Explanation:	Explanation:

Goal Number:	Goal Area:				
Baseline (V	│ Vhat can the student currently do?):				
b	Annual Goal/Target I(s) will the student be expected to attain y the end of this IEP's timeframe? n objectives and/or benchmarks (interme	Criteria What measurement will be used to determine whether the goal has been achieved?	Method How will progress be measured? seline and the measurable	Schedule How frequently will progress be measured?	Person(s) Responsible Who will monitor progress?
_	OF PROGRESS REPORTING and when parent(s) will be periodically inf	ormed of the student's progr	ess toward meeting the an	nual goal(s):	

MEASURABLE ANNUAL GOALS

fno, provide an explanation of the extent to which the student will not participate in general education. Include a description of the specific supplementary aids and services considered before determining that the student would be removed from a general education class or activity.						
ERVICE DELIVE	:RY					
		rvices, and supports based	l on peer-reviewed rese	earch to the extent practicable (includ	ing, if applicable	, positive
			•	ng services in general education settin		•
other options.						
c. options:						
Goal	Type of Service	Provided by	Location	Frequency/Duration	Start Date	End Date
Goal	Type of Service	Provided by List job title	Location	Frequency/Duration	Start Date	End Date
Goal	Type of Service	List job title		xminutes per day	Start Date	End Date
Goal	Type of Service	List job title		xminutes per day cycle	Start Date	End Date
Goal		List job title A. Consultation (Inc	direct Services to Sch	xminutes per day cycle pool Personnel and Parents)		End Date
·		List job title A. Consultation (Inc	direct Services to Sch	xminutes per day cycle		End Date
Goal		List job title A. Consultation (Inc	direct Services to Sch	xminutes per day cycle pool Personnel and Parents)		End Date

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
☐ Transportation will be provided in the same manner as it would be for students without disabilities. (Please note that if the student is placed in a program located at a school other than the school the student would have attended if not eligible for special education, then transportation will be provided.)
\Box The student requires transportation supports and/or services as a related service.
Student will be transported on a regular transportation vehicle with the following assistance, attendants, modifications, and/or specialized equipment and precautions:
Specify the disability-related need(s) that require support(s) during transportation (e.g., seizures, a tendency for motion sickness, behavioral or communication difficulties):
☐ Student will be transported on a special transportation vehicle with the following assistance, attendants, modifications, and/or specialized equipment and precautions:
Specify the disability-related need(s) that require support(s) during transportation (e.g., seizures, a tendency for motion sickness, behavioral or communication difficulties):
SCHEDULE MODIFICATION
Does the student require a different duration to their school program, including the length of their day or year so that they can receive a free appropriate public
education?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, what are the student's disability-related needs that require a different schedule?
If yes, describe the change in schedule to the student's educational program.
If the student requires a longer year, please include the services they will receive (including, if applicable, positive behavioral supports and support/training for
school personnel and/or parent[s]) during Extended School Year in the service delivery grid below.

Number(s)	Type of Service	Provided by List job title	Location	Frequency/Duration minutes per day cycle	Start Date	End Date
		A. Consultation (Indir	ect Services to Scho	ol Personnel and Parents)		
	B. Specia	al Education and Related S	ervices in General E	ducation Classrooms (Direct Service)	
C. Special Education and Related Services in Other Settings (Direct Service)						
☐ Transportatio located at a s	chool other than the school equires transportation supp I be transported on a regula	ne manner as it would be fo they would have attended orts and/or services as a re	if not eligible for sp elated service.	disabilities. (Please note that if the ecial education, transportation will istance, attendants, modifications, a	be provided.)	
	15.				rkness hehavin	ral or
☐ Student will precaution Specify the d	isability-related need(s) thation difficulties):	t require support(s) during	transportation (e.g.	, seizures, a tendency for motion sid	LKITESS, DETTAVIO	iai Oi
Student will precaution Specify the d communicat	isability-related need(s) that ion difficulties): I be transported on a specia			stance, attendants, modifications, a		

ADD	ITIONAL INFORMATION					
Record other IEP information not previously stated (e.g., information about the student that is important to know but is not addressed through IEP goals and services).						
RESPONSE SECTION						
Scho	ol Assurance: I certify that the goa	als in this IEP are those recommended by the Team and that the indicate	ed special education	n services will be provided.		
	Name and role of LEA representati ve:	Signature:	Date:			
Resp	onse from parent(s) or student w	who has reached the age of majority with decision-making rights:				
1	It is important to tell the district your decision as soon as possible. Please indicate your response by checking the appropriate box below and returning a signed copy to the district.					
	I accept this IEP as developed.					
	I reject the following portions of the IEP with the understanding that any portion(s) that I do not reject will be considered					
	accepted and implemented immediately. Rejected portions are as follows:					
	☐ I reject this IEP as developed.					
Parent Comment: I would like to make the following comment(s) but realize any comment(s) made that suggest changes to the proposed IEP will not be implemented unless the IEP is amended.						
Sign	ature of Parent(s), Guardian, Educa	ational Surrogate Parent, or Student 18 and Over**		Date:		
** St	** Student signature is required once a student reaches 18 unless there is a court-appointed guardian.					
Meeting Request						
	☐ I request a meeting to discuss the rejected IEP or rejected portion(s).					

Professional Development and Technical Assistance

Spring 2023 Symposium

Fall 2023 Training of Trainers

Office Hours (Spring 2023-June 2024)



Additional Tools and Resources

Project - Special

Education
(mass.edu)

IEP Technical Guide

Family Guide

Sample IEPs

Topic Specific Resources



IEP Playbook

IEP Implementation Grant Update

- Name of Grant Program: <u>Individuals with Disabilities</u>
 <u>Education Act Part B (IDEA) Targeted Improvement</u>
 <u>Grant</u>
- Federal Targeted IEP Implementation Project Grant
- Fund Code: 274

Technology and IEP Platforms

- IEP 2023 Preliminary data requirements analysis Revised 8/25/2023
- IEP 2023 Business Requirements Document Revised 8/25/2023



Policy, Strategic, and Other Planning Considerations

Policy Considerations

- Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility
- Child Find
- Family Engagement
- Least Restrictive Environment and Inclusion
- English Learners
- Equitable Access and Practices (Significant Disproportionality)
- Discipline and Attendance
- Students 18-22 and Secondary Transition
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

Key Considerations

- IEP Platforms
- Professional Development
- Special Education Staff
- Time for Team Meetings and Planning
- Extended School Year (ESY)
- Transportation (including ESY)
- Assistive Technology
- Translations and Interpreters

Strategic Planning Considerations

- Collaboration Between General Education and Special Education Educators and Administrators
- Technical and Adaptive Changes (see IEP Playbook)
- Inclusive Practices and Common Planning
- Coordination of Services (Special Ed and EL)
- Scheduling, Organizing, and Preparing for Team Meetings
- Classroom Placement of Students and Staff Scheduling
- Ongoing and Embedded Professional Development
- Regular Data Reviews (Special Education Related Data)

Special Education Related Information

- Special Education Website
- Monthly Special Education Bulletin
- Monthly Special Education Leaders Meetings

<u>Special Education - Massachusetts Department of Elementary</u> <u>and Secondary Education</u>

(https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/)

Special Education Bulletin

