



## SERVING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

What are school district requirements for new preschool special education referrals and IDEA Part C transitions during the mandated school closure?

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recognizes that schools may not be able to provide all services in the same manner they typically are provided. School district personnel and parents are being asked to work collaboratively during the mandated school closure to provide services for students with disabilities. Districts are encouraged to complete as much of the referral and/or transition process as possible in accordance with ODE guidance for considering the safety of staff and students, completing meetings virtually, and as outlined in their guidance document *Considerations for Students with Disabilities During Ohio's School-Building Closure*.

Do we need to complete the child outcomes summary process for all eligible children and enter scores for the spring 2020 data reporting assessment window?

Please see the changes below.

- **For children entering Preschool Special Education during the mandated school closure**, school districts should make good faith efforts to complete the eligibility determination process following the ODE guidance linked above. If the child is coming from Part C and the data is accessible, you may use the Exit Child Outcomes Summary Form information. If you are planning for the evaluation to determine eligibility, evaluation data can be used to complete this Child Outcomes Summary. If the evaluation cannot be completed due to the mandated school closure, the Child Outcomes Summary process can be completed at the conclusion of the mandated school closure period.
- **If a child's annual Child Outcomes Summary process is due now**, the annual Child Outcomes Summary process will not be required during the mandated school closure. There is no expectation to complete or report an annual Child Outcomes Summary process for any child whose annual Child Outcomes Summary is due during the school-building closure.
- **If a child is due to exit Preschool Special Education now**, the Child Outcomes Summary process should be completed with information that is available virtually, by telephone, or by other safe means. Scores based on the Child Outcomes Summary process can be entered between now and when school starts for the 2020-2021 academic year.
- **For a child who has a Child Outcomes Summary process completed during the mandated school closure**, the Early Learning Assessment is not a required source of evidence for spring 2020. Please refer to the ODE provided Child Outcomes Policy for other sources of information that should be used.

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## DISTANCE EDUCATION

Is the internet the only approach to distance education?

Infrastructures such as high-speed internet, access to Wi-Fi networks, and mobile hotspots support the delivery of online curriculum and online classes. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) reports that 90% of the world's student population (approximately 1.5 billion students) are affected by nationwide school closures due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The variations of the offline infrastructures in communities without internet include approaches such as: packets (daily/weekly) pickup/distribution via bus routes, mail (pre-stamped envelopes), telephone, instructional TV, etc.

Has the Ohio Department of Education provided distance education guidance to schools and districts?

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has prepared a list of resources. The ***Remote Learning Resource Guide*** is available on the ODE website: [Remote Learning Resource Guide \(pdf file\)](#)

Where can I find more resources about different aspects of distance education?

The National Education Association has a curation of articles, links, resources, and webinars available on the NEA website: [Resources for online learning during school closures](#)

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