



ESY Definition & Criteria

In short, the Extended School Year (ESY) definition is, special education and related services that are provided to a child with a disability beyond the normal school year of the public agency in accordance with the child's IEP and at no cost to the parents of any eligible child. ESY is for **maintenance of skills rather than acquisition of new skills.** Therefore, it is typically determined necessary for a student for whom data shows skills or acquired knowledge specified in the measurable annual goals will likely be lost and the amount of time necessary to recoup those skills when school/instruction resumes will extend beyond what is expected for typical learners after a similar break in instruction. In a typical school year when regression verses recoupment is easier to measure as well as in this current atypical year of 2020-2021, the IEP teams also considers other factors such as:

1. Relative impact of short breaks on a student's maintenance of skills
2. Whether or not and to what extent IEP goals and objectives/benchmarks have been met
3. Significance of the nature and severity of the student's disability
4. Individual circumstances that make the provision of ESY services critical so, upon the return to the new school term, a student can learn or participate in school activities

Since ESY recommendation is individual and all of the factors and data are considered by each student's IEP team, please work with parents who reach out to you through the IEP process to help them understand their student's eligibility criteria.

We make a difference. We embrace change together. We are a true team of professionals. We build the future.

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