OSEP-funded TA Center COVID-19 Resources

OSERS' technical assistance centers are ready to address your questions regarding the IDEA and best practices and alternate models for providing special education and related services, including through distance instruction. The National Center for Systemic Improvement is the primary source for technical assistance resources during the COVID-19 national emergency for IDEA Part B programs. The Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center is the primary source for IDEA Part C programs. For questions pertaining to Part C of IDEA, States should contact their Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center State Contact. For Part B of IDEA, States should contact the National Center for Systemic Improvement.

Early Childhood

The Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center is providing State Part C and Part B, Section 619 programs with the latest information on funding and guidance, as well as information on talking to children and families during the COVID-19 national emergency.

School Age

The National Center for Systemic Improvement's web page provides a resource hub for supporting students with disabilities during the COVID-19 national emergency, including educator resources to support remote learning.

Other Resources

Virtual IEP Meeting Tip Sheets

The Center for Parent Information and Resources serves as the host a collection of tip sheets on planning for and participating in virtual meetings, including those related to a student's IEP (Individualized Education Program). The tip sheets, developed by six OSEP-funded technical assistance centers, include:

- a sample agenda for a virtual IEP meeting, in English and Spanish,
- technology tips for all participants,
- suggestions for *hosting* a virtual meeting,
- tips for those *participating* in a virtual meeting, and
- an infographic about virtual IEP meetings, in English and in Spanish.

Proficient Communicators Who Are Deaf-Blind

The National Center on Deaf-Blindness has compiled and organized Resources for Providing Technical Assistance During the COVID-19 Pandemic. It covers OSEP guidance, distance TA, resources for families and service providers, and online learning for proficient communicators who are deaf-blind. The page is being regularly updated with input from state deaf-blind projects and national partners.

Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

TIES Center has launched a distance-learning series that provides a framework for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to get through these new transitions, engage fully in academics online, and interact with their teachers and peers, a critical component of well-being. TIES Center is regularly adding resources to the distance learning series that offer the following recommendations to support the inclusion and engagement of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Current resources include:

- TIES Distance Learning #1: Morning Meetings
- TIES Distance Learning #2: A Collaborative Start to Behavioral Supports
- TIES Distance Learning #3: Effective Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) Within the Distance Learning Environment: What in the World Does That Look Like?

Accessible Materials and Technologies

The National AEM Center at CAST has developed resources to support students who need accessible materials and technologies while learning remotely during the COVID-19 crisis. The resources can be accessed here.

Supporting Parents as Teachers

Parents: Supporting Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic offers practical tools and easy-to-implement tips to help children learn at home during the school shutdowns caused by COVID-19. Created specifically with parents in mind, this module covers strategies to help parents get children ready to learn; support reading and mathematics instruction; promote children's social and emotional wellbeing, and help struggling learners and students with disabilities. These topics and more can be found in this engaging multi-media module.

Ebooks

[Bookshare](#) provides accessible Ebooks for eligible individuals with barriers to reading. The resources linked here will help students with dyslexia, blindness, cerebral palsy, and other reading barriers to continue learning during school closures.

Providing Distance Family Support

Are you providing early intervention or preschool services using distance technology? Do you have questions about how you can support families as they help their children with learning activities or conducting intervention within routines? On this April 17 webinar, [Providing Distance Family Support: What do I say? How can I help?](#), faculty at the ED-funded [National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations](#) discuss challenges related to assisting families using distance learning. They also share ideas on checking in with families, how to respond to difficult questions, and resources that might be shared.