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Extension of Services for Students 21 and Older with IEPs

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To address the disruptions to education and access to transition planning that many students experienced as a result of the pandemic, NYSED issued [guidance](#)  on April 13, 2021 encouraging schools and districts to allow students who turned 21 before the start of the 2021-2022 school year to remain in school during the 2021-22 school year if necessary in order to complete their education and earn a diploma, credential, or endorsement . Accordingly, the NYCDOE is allowing students who would typically be aging out of school but are in need of continued education or support services in order to graduate with a diploma or to transition to adult programs and services to remain in school for the 2021-2022 school year. Schools are asked to review the needs of every student 21 or older to determine what if any support is needed in accordance with the guidelines below. A parent can also initiate a request for extension of services through outreach to the school's principal.

The NYCDOE is delivering an extension of services in two ways: continued instruction and transition support consultancy services.

Continued Instruction for Students 21+

Students who participate in standardized assessments and are working toward a diploma and were unable to complete the credits needed in the 2020-21 school year, will be invited back to continue school in the 2021-22 school year.

Where students agree to return, schools must enroll them and program them appropriately in STARS for the courses needed in order to attain a high school diploma. Students remain active in all systems and should be re-enrolled if they had been previously discharged.



Students with IEPs who are alternately assessed who may have received a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SAC) but who have missed instruction and/or services because of the transition to remote learning, and/or who are showing signs of regression and have not met their IEP goals, are also eligible to be invited to continue school during the 2021-22 school year. These students may be eligible to receive instruction and/or related services.

Students who do not have postsecondary plans in place, such as engagement with an adult day habilitation program, a vocational program, or an educational program, should be considered for extension of services if they have not met their IEP goals, have not been able to fully access their education, or regression is present. All recommendations for extension of instruction services for students who are working toward a SAC credential must be made by school personnel in collaboration with the parent after a review of progress monitoring information, other relevant data including loss of previously attained skills, and confirmation regarding postsecondary services.

Students who meet the criteria should be invited back and, if the parent accepts the invitation, enrolled in the appropriate educational program. These students remain active in all systems and should be re-enrolled if they had been previously discharged. IEPs should be reviewed and updated as needed through standard procedures.

Transition Support Consultancy Services for Students 21+

Students with IEPs who need to be connected with adult/postsecondary services or instruction but have otherwise completed school will be offered transition support consultancy services.

Transition support consultancy services are individualized services to meet the needs of the student, depending on their post-school goals. This includes:

- Assisting with eligibility for adult services through OPWDD
- Intakes at adult service agencies
- Intakes at ACCES-VR and/or other vocational programs
- College applications and supporting documents
- Any other connections or referrals that need to be made in order to ensure that the student will be engaged in the appropriate adult programs and services

Transition support consultancy services will end once post-school programs and services are secured or the parent decides that they are no longer necessary because they are securing the appropriate adult program or services for the young adult on their own.

Every effort should be made to continue to support a student's linkage to an appropriate postsecondary program and/or services, per established transition goals, including for students who have been offered extension of instruction services. Review information to determine where students are in the process of determining Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) eligibility.

Transition support consultancy services will be provided by your borough Transition and College Access Center (TCAC) or the District 75 Office of Transition Services and Postsecondary Planning Initiatives. Contact information is as follows:

- Bronx - bxtcac@schools.nyc.gov
- Brooklyn - bklyntcac@schools.nyc.gov
- Manhattan - mntcac@schools.nyc.gov
- Queens - gnstcac@schools.nyc.gov
- Staten Island - sitcac@schools.nyc.gov
- District 75 Office of Transition Services and Postsecondary Planning Initiatives - D75transition@schools.nyc.gov



Students who are receiving transition support consultancy services only should not be active in ATS or SESIS.

Students that previously attended state-approved non-public schools are eligible for services at the TCAC. State-approved non-public schools will work with the CSE to arrange services at the TCACs.

Parents must be involved in postsecondary planning for their students and agree to any consultancy or extension of services.

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