

Eisenhower Cooperative



ESY ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

ESY is designed for students with **significant disabilities** for whom we have evidence that additional days of school are necessary in order for them to maintain their educational progress. ESY is not intended for everyone. If a student qualifies for ESY, the expectation is that they maintain their gains from the current school year.

1. There are seven areas to consider: **Regression, recoupment, self-sufficiency, current level of service, aide support, degree of impairment, and complexity of disability.** Each area is scored by marking a 1, 2 or 3 (1 as a low risk and 3 as a high risk). Staff is to use their readily available, classroom-based evidence when making these determinations. The scores are summed at the end of the process. The criteria allows for professional judgment, which can be applied for students who score in the borderline range. (See rubric for additional eligibility considerations.)
2. The criterion is to be completed by the student's case manager and confirmed by the team members at the IEP meeting with parents.
3. For students who have related services, the case manager must consult with the provider to determine if ESY services are appropriate. Students must qualify to receive related services in ESY program.
4. For students who have new special education eligibility that has been completed during the current school year, teams should consider if they have sufficient information over break(s) in order to make a decision about ESY.
 - a. For example, if a student has their first IEP in the Fall, there would be Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks to use to calculate regression and recoupment. If the student meets the criteria, the IEP could be amended to include ESY.
 - b. If a student has their first IEP in Mid-Winter, Spring Break would be the measure and the IEP could be amended to include ESY.
 - c. If a student has their first IEP after Spring Break, the student may not qualify for ESY unless the student had very intensive needs that were identified on criteria 3, 4 and 5 of the ESY Eligibility Criteria.

5. For student(s) who are turning 3 years of age in late Spring or Summer, the team(s) should use their professional judgment on ESY Eligibility Criteria 3, 4 and 5, since no regression/recoupment data will likely be available. During this transition time, most student(s) with significant disabilities qualify for programming regardless of the time of the year. In subsequent years, the parents should be informed that regression and recoupment will be a part of the consideration for ESY once the student is participating in the programming.
6. After the criteria form is completed, it may be filed in the student's special education file. It is not a part of the IEP paperwork distributed to parents.
7. The criterion is intended to be used as a guideline for the team's decision regarding ESY. Generally, it is not shared with parents, but the determination is to be recorded in the IEP. In circumstances where there is a disagreement between the team and the parents, the criteria can be shared so that the parents understand the rationale for the team's perspective.
8. If a child does not qualify for ESY, you may need to provide a detailed explanation to the parent(s). In those situations, you may complete the form and share it with them. If they choose to appeal the decision, the administration should have the criteria available and use it to help the parent(s) understand the team's decision.
9. Eisenhower Cooperative operates ESY programs that serve a large percentage of ESY eligible students within our member districts. When recommending Eisenhower Cooperative operated ESY programming, teams should follow these procedures and complete the appropriate forms in the IEP.