

COVID-19 Compensatory Services (CCS) during 20/21 school year:

COVID-19 Compensatory Services (CCS) refers to services as determined by an IEP team needed to remedy a student's skill and/or behavior loss and/or lack of progress that resulted from an LEA's inability to provide Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) while using alternative instructional models due to the COVID-19 pandemic. CCS should be considered only after the student receives services as set forth in their IEP for a period of time ("recoupment period"). This will give the student an opportunity to recoup the lost skills or behavior or to make progress to the level(s) determined appropriate prior to the extended school closure.

At CTASD, the only time that students went without education was during the mandatory shutdown in March 2020 as directed by Governor Tom Wolf. Since starting 20/21, the majority of students have returned to face-to-face instruction with a few parents electing to have their children participate remotely. In any case, all education, supports, and related services have been offered to students and have continued for the start of 20/21, regardless of the family's educational preference for their child.

At the start of 20/21, all special education teachers were informed to collect baseline data and compare each student's progress to their levels from March 13, 2020. If the child demonstrated a significant loss of skills, great difficulty recouping skills (to the level they were at on March 13, 2020), or demonstrated regression when evaluated for their quarter one progress reports in 20/21, the child may be eligible for COVID-19 Compensatory Services (CCS) in one or more goal areas. Considering that, if there is any remaining loss in skills and/or behaviors and/or lack of progress after the recoupment period (approximately 3 months from the start of school), the IEP team should determine whether and to what extent the student needs CCS.

If a student is eligible for CCS, the IEP team should determine the type and amount of CCS and how CCS will be delivered. CCS should not supplant the student's current IEP, and the IEP team should refrain from altering the least restrictive environment if CCS are offered during the school day. At CTASD, CCS may be provided after the calendar year ends (possibly June 2021 or at another agreed upon time); however, this service should be discussed with the IEP team regarding the amount and frequency of support. Each student's CCS may differ depending on the amount of regression and severity of disability. CCS may only be provided with parent agreement; if a parent chooses not to have their child participate in CCS, such a designation will be made on the NOREP and services will not be provided.

At the start of December 2020 (since CTASD will have had normal operations for approximately three months), all parents/guardians will receive a NOREP (Notice of Recommended Educational Placement) or PWN (Prior Written Notice) indicating whether their child is eligible for CCS. If the child is eligible for CCS, the IEP team will discuss the format and frequency of CCS for the eligible student.

For more information on CCS, please refer to the following website:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Special%20Education/FAQContact/Pages/COVID-19-Compensatory-Services.aspx>