

## COVID-19 School Closure Q&A: Compensatory Services

### What are compensatory services?

- Special education services given to a student to make up for IEP services a school district didn't provide. The type and amount of services depends on your child's individual needs.

### Will my child receive compensatory services when schools re-open?

- Once schools re-open, the IEP Team should meet to decide what compensatory services your child may need, as well as what additional services your child may need in their new IEP.
- The Team's decision about what compensatory services are needed should be based on your child's disability and unique needs, the amount of services that were missed, and your child's progress and skills when they return to school.
- This does not mean that every child will receive compensatory services or that every IEP service session that was missed will be made up.

### Do schools have to provide IEP services now while schools are closed?

- School districts should give students as many of their IEP services as possible *now* to lessen the need to give compensatory services when schools re-open.
- Right now, schools should provide remote instruction and services based on the current IEP goals and services.
- Schools may not be able to do everything in the IEP because of the state safety orders, but they must make their best efforts considering the situation.

### What can parents do now?

- Keep track of the services your child is getting while schools are closed.
- Keep track of how your child is doing during this time.
- MAC has developed an app that parents can use to keep track of services. You can get this app [here](#). Or you can also start your own log or journal.
- This information can help parents tell the IEP Team what services they think their child needs now, and also what services they will need when schools open.
- Ask IEP Team members for help to address concerns right away.

There will likely be more federal and state guidance for school districts about compensatory services in the coming weeks.

**Contact MAC's Helpline if you have questions or concerns:**

**617-357-8431**

**[massadvocates.org/helpline](https://massadvocates.org/helpline)**

