



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Guidance on Special Education

April 2, 2020

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Attendee Reminders

- Thank you for attending!
- All attendees will be placed on mute for the duration of the webinar.
- To ask questions, please use the Q and A or chat feature
- Questions will be addressed by the presenters at the conclusion of the session
- This session is being recorded and will be posted to the CSDE web site.



Our Presenters

Charlene Russell-Tucker, Deputy
Commissioner

Jessa Mirtle, CSDE Legal Director

Bryan Klimkiewicz, Division Director, Bureau
of Special Education



Executive Orders

- **Executive Order 7C:**
 - Addressed evolving circumstances suggesting a longer term school class cancelation by clarifying the waiver of the requirement for 180 day school year, allowing all districts to close on their normally scheduled end-date, so long as they provide continued educational opportunities to the greatest extent possible
- **Executive Order 7 M:**
 - Authorized commissioners of state agencies to suspend or modify administrative deadlines
- **Executive Order 7 R:**
 - Addressed funding for boards of education, sustaining staff, and contracts including with Special Education Providers

Federal Guidance

- Office of Civil Rights (OCR) - Fact Sheet: Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Schools While Protecting the Civil Rights of Students (March 16, 2020)
 - <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-coronavirus-fact-sheet.pdf>
- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) - Questions and Answers on Providing Services to Children with Disabilities During the COVID-19 Outbreak (March 12, 2020)
 - <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/memosdcltrs/qa-covid-19-03-12-2020.pdf>

Federal Guidance

“ To be clear: ensuring compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504), and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act should not prevent any school from offering educational programs through distance instruction.”

- US Department of Education - Supplemental Fact Sheet Addressing Serving Children with Disabilities during COVID-19 national emergency (March 21, 2020)

– <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/frontpage/faq/rr/policyguidance/Supple%20Fact%20Sheet%203.21.20%20FINAL.pdf>

Contact

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