



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

08.19.2021

❖ Online Independent Study Program

(Q) What if parent can't access Parent Portal? Technical difficulty or no technology?

(A) For City of Angels Online Independent Study Program Enrollment Information Please Call: 213-443-1300

(Q) Are schools still offering Distance Learning?

(A) Due to the expiration of SB 98, distance learning is not currently in place. In accordance with Assembly Bill 130, there is an option for the Online Independent Study Program through the City of Angels for students in TK-12th grade. <https://www.cityofangelsschool.org/> **If the child has an IEP, then the IEP must reflect independent study as the placement. Parent should contact their school principal or special education administrator to arrange for an IEP team meeting to consider independent study.**

(Q) What is the Online Independent Study Program?

(A) An Online Independent Study Program will also be available for families with medical, social-emotional, or other concerns. Students will receive daily live online instruction for part of the day and complete independent work when not learning directly with a teacher. This program will be an independent study program run through the City of Angels school, meaning students may not be learning from teachers at their current school. For special education students, participation in independent study is subject to Individualized Education Program (IEP) team determination.

For more information visit : [LA Unified Back to School Family Guide](#)

Spanish: [Bienvenido de regreso a la escuela guía para familias](#)

(Q) Students in general education are being enrolled in City of Angels Online Independent Study Program. Why must an IEP team meeting be held for my student with a disability?

(A) California Education Code mandates an IEP before a student can participate in independent study. Per the, Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) federal law, for students with disabilities receiving special education services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP), any placement/program change must be reviewed and discussed in an IEP team meeting, and any changes documented in the IEP before a program or placement change may take place.

(Q) Are BII services provided for students attending the Online Independent Study Program?

(A) Should IEP teams determine that the Online Independent Study Program is an appropriate placement and BII/BID/BIC services are necessary, services may be provided as determined by the IEP team.

(Q) I will not send my child to school while I wait for an IEP team meeting to be held to review City of Angels placement.

(A) While your student's IEP to consider independent study is pending, please be advised that the District is ready, willing, and able to deliver the offer of free appropriate public education ("FAPE") reflected in your student's IEP. Parents who have demonstrated interest in attending the on-line program will receive a Prior Written Notice (PWN) that describes the support available while an IEP is in process.

(Q) How will Related Services be provided if my student participates in the Online Independent Study Program? Ex. Language and Speech, Occupational Therapy, Guidance and Counseling, etc.

(A) Students with related services identified in their IEP, will receive these services either at their school of attendance or by a designated related services provider, either in-person or synchronously online, as determined by the IEP team. The IEP team must determine the appropriate amount of related service(s) based on the student's individual needs and in consideration with the synchronous instructional time available during the Online Independent Study Program. The support provider will meet with the parent and make an appointment time for providing services.



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(Q) What does the Online Independent Study Program look like?

- (A) City of Angels offers credentialed teachers for Independent Study. Classes may be populated with students from across the District.
- SECONDARY: Synchronous instruction is offered for two hours per day in secondary (across three 70-minute periods, with at least 40 minutes of direct student-teacher time per period)
- ELEMENTARY: Synchronous instruction is offered for three hours per day in elementary. The time may be divided between direct instruction, small group instruction, one-to-one check-ins, independent work and student group work time.
- CORE CURRICULUM: Students on the core curriculum will use Edgenuity, Achieve3000, and iXL.
- ALTERNATE CURRICULUM: Students on the alternate curriculum will use ULS and N2Y as the curriculum.
- All students in independent study should be prepared to work independently for 20-30 hours a week.
- Students for whom City of Angels Online Independent Study Program is not FAPE may consider Carlson Home Hospital School if they have a medical need.

(Q) Will students be able to switch between online independent study program and in-person learning?

- (A) The Education Code provides you the right to return to in-person learning from independent study in no less than 5 instructional days. While it may be possible for students to switch between the in-person and online programs, this may cause disruptions to a student's learning because they may be learning with different teachers and different lessons. We encourage families to consider the best choice for their student so they can have an optimal learning experience. Students with an IEP will require an IEP team meeting be held to review placement options and offer of FAPE.

(Q) What if the IEP team decides that the Online Independent Study program is not an appropriate placement for my child, but I do not want them to return to in-person instruction?

- (A) Parents/Guardians have the right to explore resolution paths, as outlined in [A Parent's Guide to Special Education Services, Including Procedural Rights and Safeguards](#) booklet. Resolution options include: Informal Dispute Resolution, Alternate Dispute Resolution-in Schools, Mediation Only, and Formal Due Process.

❖ **Vaccinations/Masks**

(Q) Are masks mandated?

- (A) Yes. Face masks and daily health checks will be required for all students, staff, and visitors while on campus. If your student requires accommodations to the mask requirement due to their disability and/or medical condition, please contact your school administrator to develop and complete the [Face Mask Accommodation](#) form.

(Q) How often are students and staff being tested?

- (A) Weekly - All students and employees, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, returning for in-person instruction must participate in baseline and ongoing weekly COVID testing. This is in accordance with the most recent guidance from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

(Q) Are all my child's teachers vaccinated?

- (A) All employees are encouraged to get vaccinated and will be required to test weekly, regardless of vaccination status.



❖ Transportation

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(Q) What do I do if the bus is late picking up or dropping off my child?

(A) Call 1-800-522-8737

(Q) What if my child can't wear a mask on the bus?

(A) If your student requires accommodations to the mask requirement due to their disability and/or medical condition, please contact your school administrator to develop and complete the [Face Mask Accommodation](#) form.

(Q) What if my child's school of attendance changed from the last IEP team meeting?

(A) Go to your child's current school of attendance, and ask to speak to the school administrator to discuss the offer of FAPE at the current school of attendance

(Q) How do I add people to receive my child from drop off or change pick-up/drop-off address for transportation?

(A) To inactivate transportation service, change release- to information, or make equipment adjustment, parents may call the SFSS Call Center at 213-241-6701 and agents will complete the Call Center Intake form.

To activate transportation service, change School of Attendance, and change of pick up and/or drop-off address, please contact to your child's School of Attendance (SOA) for assistance. The SOA can submit an internal transportation request form to request these changes.

❖ Afterschool Programs

(Q) Are there afterschool programs – and how do I enroll my child?

(A) Beyond the Bell will offer high quality, safe, and supervised academic, enrichment, and recreation programs from the end of the school day until 6 p.m. Programs will offer in-person enrichment activities in four areas of engagement with opportunities for students to learn and thrive physically and mentally, focusing on academic, physical, creative, and social and emotional learning. For more information on how to participate, please visit <https://btb.lausd.net> or call your school.

❖ Technology

(Q) What if my child has issues with their technology/device?

(A) Contact the Help Desk by calling 213-241-5200. Phone lines are open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Please visit the ITD website for additional contact options at <https://achieve.lausd.net/helpdesk>.

❖ IEP Team Meetings

(Q) Will virtual IEP team meetings still be available?

(A) Yes. In addition to in-person IEP team meetings, families may continue to utilize the Virtual IEP team meeting option, with meetings held via Zoom. If unable to participate in person or via zoom, parents may participate telephonically.

(Q) If a parent/guardian believes their child has learning loss, can a parent request an IEP before the annual review to address this issue?

(A) Parents always have the right to request an IEP team meeting to discuss any concerns. Best practice is to connect with the child's case carrier for guidance.

(Q) How can I have an IEP meeting set up?

(A) To have an IEP meeting scheduled, put your request for an IEP meeting in writing and give it to the special education administrator. An IEP meeting will be set up within 30 days. You may also connect with your child's case carrier.