

# Extended School Year:

## A Parent / Guardian's Guide to Success

### Video Transcript

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Host: "Hello, and welcome! Today, we're talking about Extended School Year services, or ESY, an essential component of special education under IDEA. Let's explore what E-S-Y entails and how it benefits students."

Host: "Extended School Year services are special education and related services provided beyond the regular school year for students with disabilities. These services help maintain the progress made during the school year, preventing regression of critical skills."

Host: "Unlike summer school, which is typically open to all students and focuses on catching up or advancing in curriculum, ESY is tailored to meet the specific needs of students with disabilities. It's a continuation of the IEP goals and is not meant for new learning but for maintaining existing skills."

Host: "Not all students with disabilities need ESY. In Minnesota eligibility is determined by the IEP team based on factors such as regression-recoupment analysis, the nature and severity of the disability, and unique needs. The team assesses whether the student is at risk of significant regression without these services. This is a team decision ideally made at the Annual IEP Meeting."

Host: "At ESY, students focus on maintaining skills that are crucial for their continued progress. This can include academic skills, social skills, communication skills, independence skills and other areas identified in their IEP. The goal is to prevent skill loss that could set back their progress."

Host: "Parents and guardians play a vital role by participating in the IEP team discussions, providing input on their child's needs, and supporting the ESY plan. Your involvement helps ensure that the services align with your child's goals and support their overall well-being over a period when school is out or not required for all such as a summer break."

Host: "If you have any questions about ESY or your child's eligibility, reach out to your child's special education team. They can provide clarity and guidance to help you understand how ESY can support your child's educational journey. They can also provide you with the dates and times of when ESY is offered in your child's school district."

Host: "If it is determined by the IEP team, your child's participation in Extended School Year services are a valuable resource to ensure your child continues to thrive. By staying informed and engaged, you contribute significantly to your child's ongoing success. Thank you for your commitment to their education!"

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