



Office for Exceptional Children (April 29, 2013)

Options for High School Graduation for Students with Disabilities Resource

In October 2009 Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3313.603 was revised and provided additional options or pathways to graduation. Students with disabilities now have four pathways to graduation. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE), Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) developed guidance documents describing the four pathways for graduation for students with disabilities and the requirements for completing each pathway. It was developed to assist IEP teams, both educators and parents, select the appropriate pathway for graduation based on each individual student's strengths, needs and post-secondary goals. Components of the different pathways cannot be altered or combined with components of other pathways.

Below are links to the Options for High School Graduation for Students with Disabilities guidance documents.

- [Graphic: Options for High School Graduation under IDEA for Students with Disabilities who have IEPs](#)
- [Options for High School Graduation for Students With Disabilities](#)

Public Comment Process Required on LEA Special Education Funding Plans

Prior to the start of each school year, districts and community schools are required to conduct public hearings on how they intend to spend their Part B funds for special education. In addition to presenting a spending plan for these funds, the hearing must include an opportunity for public comments and input from program participants and parents regarding the usage of these funds. Schools must document that the meeting occurred and that it was adequately advertised in advance through news releases, flyers or other public communication.

To ensure Ohio complies with this federal requirement, districts and community schools must maintain and present the required documents for review by the ODE-OEC, or to a state auditor during the audit of a district. For additional information about this process or requirement, contact Naim Sanders at (614) 644-6083 or Naim.Sanders@education.ohio.gov.

New Assistive Technology Internet Module

The ODE-OEC, through its contract with the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI), is pleased to announce the latest Assistive Technology (AT) Internet Module, "AT Supports and Services in the IEP".

Documenting AT in the individualized education program (IEP) is sometimes a daunting task. This module will describe ways that AT devices and services can be



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indicated in the IEP. Proper documentation of AT in the IEP ensures that students will receive the necessary AT and the corresponding services to enable them to access and participate in the school environment. View the module at www.atinternetmodules.org.

Public Comment on Special Education Accommodations for 2014-2015 Computer-based Tests Now Through May 13

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is offering the public the opportunity to review and provide feedback on a draft accommodations manual that will support local educators in the selection, administration and evaluation of accommodations for the assessment of students with disabilities and English learners on end-of-year, performance-based and optional mid-year assessment components. The manual and accompanying survey, which is available now through May 13, along with a set of frequently asked questions can be found by [clicking here](#). In addition to guidance, the manual includes information about tools that all students can use on the assessments, such as highlighting text and magnified text and graphics.

Ohio is one of 22 states comprising PARCC that are developing the computer-based tests for the Common Core in reading and math.

Promoting Membership, Participation and Learning for Students with Low-incidence Disabilities in the General Education Classroom - OCALICON Pre-Conference Workshop with Michael McSheehan

On November 19th, spend the day with Michael McSheehan as he discusses inclusive philosophies and the implementation of inclusive practices designed to promote the acceptance, belonging, participation, worth and dignity of all students. Participants in this session will leave better prepared to support all students in an inclusive environment and help them achieve success in school and beyond.

November 19, 2013
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

[Click here](#) for additional information and to register.