



Encouraging Student Independence Plan Parent F.A.Q.

What is the Encouraging Student Independence (ESI) Plan?

The ESI is a data documentation tool developed to provide IEP teams with a means for evaluating a student's progress toward functional independence. As part of the plan, at least one goal on the IEP will address developing functional independence in alignment with needs documented through baseline data.

The ESI Plan will be created through review of baseline data and collaboration with school-based staff (to include IEP case managers, general education teachers, and Special Education Instructional Assistants) and parents at an IEP team meeting.

Who will receive support through the ESI Plan?

The ESI will be completed by IEP teams for any student who's IEP reflects Supplementary Aids and Services that are implemented by an SEIA as a provider. The IEP case manager and the Special Education Instructional Assistants working with your child will be responsible for collecting data related to the functional independence goal and reviewing progress.

Why Encouraging Student Independence?

As indicated in the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA), special education and related services to students with disabilities must be provided in the "least restrictive environment." When an IEP Team is considering adult support for a student, all aspects of the student's program must be considered, with the intent of maximizing student independence.

When will I be informed of progress on the ESI Plan goal(s)?

As with all IEP goals, progress related to the goal(s) outlined on the ESI Plan is documented and reported quarterly.

When will the ESI Plan be reviewed/revised?

The ESI Plan is reviewed/revised at least annually by the school-based IEP team. At this time, the IEP team will determine student progress toward developing functional independence, consider parental input, and develop and/or revise IEP goals/objectives for encouraging student independence.