

INDEPENDENT STUDY

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Board of Education authorizes Independent Study as a voluntary instructional strategy for students in all grade levels including adult education whose educational needs may be best met outside the regular classroom. The Board emphasizes that the Independent Study option shall be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom instruction and that students, parents and caregivers requesting Independent Study understand that there shall be a major commitment to assist and support the student with their assignments. Independent Study is continuously voluntary; students cannot be assigned to Independent Study or restricted from returning to a general education classroom. A classroom within the district shall always be available to a student who wishes to return to a regular classroom instructional program. Additionally students in Independent Study shall have the same access to existing services and resources that are available to all other students in the district. However, no provision shall be made for funds or things of value to student, parents, caregivers or guardians that are not provided for student engaged in the regular classroom based instruction.

Only students who reside in Orange County or the adjoining counties may enroll in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Independent Study program. Students must enroll for a minimum of 5 or more consecutive days of Independent Study. Every student enrolled in Independent Study must have a current written agreement between the teacher, the student and the parent(s), or guardian/caregiver that has been signed and dated. To facilitate each student's success in an Independent Study program, the Board establishes that the maximum length of time that may elapse before an Independent Study assignment is due will be 20 school days or 4 school weeks for all grade levels and programs. When the circumstances justify a longer time, the Superintendent or designee may honor the request of a student or parent/guardian/caregiver to extend the maximum length of an assignment. When any student has missed two Independent Study assignments in a semester, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine if it is in the best interest of the student to remain in Independent Study. Findings of the evaluation shall be maintained for three fiscal years, excluding the current year.

Home and Hospital Instruction may not be provided through Independent Study. No temporarily disabled student may receive individual instruction by means of independent study unless the temporarily disabled student, parent/guardian/caregiver and Superintendent or designee agrees that Independent Study is an appropriate alternative to Home and Hospital Instruction. A student identified as having a disability may participate in independent study when the Individualized Educational Planning (IEP) Team agrees that Independent Study is an appropriate educational program for the student and documents this on the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) of the student.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations and procedures to implement this policy in accordance with the California Education Code, Section 51747.

Legal Reference: Education Code Sections 11701, 11701.5, 11703
Sections 46300, 46300.2, 46300.3,
46300.6, 48206.3
Sections 51747, 51747.3, 56026, 57145
Sections 51745, 51749.3, 46300 (e), and
46300.4 - 46300.7

Title V

Division I, Chapter II, Subchapter 13 (sections
11700-11703)

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