

## Frequently Asked Questions from TASP COVID-19 Survey

### 1) What is the current federal and state guidance related to evaluation timelines?

Proposed language before the State Board of Education effectively 'pauses' evaluation timelines until the state mandate for school closures ends. There is an option to apply for an additional 30 day extension for extenuating circumstances. This is pending their meeting on April 9, 2020

TDOE COVID-19 Guidance updates: <https://www.tn.gov/education/health-and-safety/update-on-coronavirus.html>

Evaluations:

EasyEP message of the day has an overview of information for initial timelines.

TDOE guidance: [https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/health-&-safety/SPED%20Guidance%20COVID\\_TN%20Final.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/health-&-safety/SPED%20Guidance%20COVID_TN%20Final.pdf)

Federal guidance, TN refers to it as well. Refer to page 3:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-coronavirus-fact-sheet.pdf>

Reevaluations:

Federal guidance (also referenced in TDOE guidance):

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/frontpage/faq/rr/policyguidance/Supple%20Fact%20Sheet%203.21.20%20FINAL.pdf>

### 2) What resources are available to support work-from-home efforts?

TASP and TDOE have collaborated to create an evaluation tracker, personal evaluation checklist, and a district level checklist for you to use, as needed/desired.

[Evaluation Checklist](#)

[District Checklist](#)

[Evaluation Tracker](#)

### 3) What should we do about incomplete evaluations for specific disabilities that are time-sensitive or require progress monitoring data? For example, what about students suspected of having a Developmental Delay who are during 7, or students who may have an SLD and now do not have consistent pm data?

There are currently no changes to the evaluation standards for any disability. Per federal guidance, OCR memo ([OCR Fact Sheet Coronavirus 3.13.2020](#)), "If an evaluation of a student with a disability requires a face-to-face assessment or observation, the evaluation would need to be delayed until school reopens. Evaluations and reevaluations that do not require face-to-face assessments or observations may take place while schools are closed, so long as a student's parent or legal guardian consents. These same principles apply to similar activities conducted by appropriate personnel for a student with a disability who has a plan developed under Section 504, or who is being evaluated under Section 504."

[\(OCR Fact Sheet Coronavirus 3.13.2020\)](#)

**4) How should we handle ethical concerns related to virtual assessments and meetings?**

NASP has provided some great guidance for handling ethical issues related to virtual service delivery.

NASP webinar link - [Legal and Ethical Considerations for Remote School Psychological Services](#)

NASP Virtual Services Resource Center - [Virtual Service Delivery in Response to COVID-19 Disruptions](#)

**5) What will each family's access be to appropriate educational and technological resources?**

Please discuss your concerns with your district to help ensure equitable access to resources. Our District Checklist provides some guidance related to what considerations may be appropriate.

**6) What information should I be aware of related to TEIS (IDEA, Part B (early intervention) transitioning to IDEA, Part C (LEA))?**

Guidance related to TEIS -

[Tennessee Early Intervention System \(TEIS\)](#)

[TEIS COVID-19 Guidance and Resources for Early Intervention Service Providers](#)

**7) What information should I be aware of related to Child Find requirements found in IDEA Part C?**

We are still responsible for ChildFind, even in a pandemic.

TDOE FAQ (see questions related to Child Find) [Special Education Related FAQ](#)

Click here for a link of FAQs for COVID-19 and Child Find requirements.

<https://www.nasponline.org/x55048.xml>

**8) What are our legal and ethical obligations related to ongoing evaluations and the associated timeline?**

Timelines will be decided at the April 9, 2020 State Board of Education meeting. Local school board guidance may provide additional input specific to your district after TDOE decisions are announced.

Guidance from the USDOE can be found at this link - [USDOE Guidance for IDEA Service Delivery FAQ for School Psychologists](#)

**9) What guidance are other districts providing related to the COVID-19 closures?**

This information can be found through the results of the TASP COVID-19 survey; please see [www.tasponline.org](http://www.tasponline.org)

**10) How can I support teachers and other school staff?**

TASP and NASP guidance - [COVID-19: Family & Educator Resources](#)

**11) Are there any updates to the practicum and internship requirements?**

Internship requirements are not specifically indicated in the state department. The requirement is to complete an internship as designed by the approved university training program. NASP has released this response to university training programs regarding internship hours: [Guidance Regarding Graduate Intern Hours in Response to School Closures](#)

[COVID-19 Resource Center - Professional and Credential Preparation](#)