

Dr. Stephanie N. Jones, Chief Officer

TO: Parents and/or Guardians

DATE: August 30, 2021

RE: Extended Special Education Eligibility Options Due to HB 40 and HB 2748

As a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, a new Illinois law gives certain students the option of extending their special education eligibility for in-person transition activities and services. The extended period of eligibility lasts up to the end of the regular 2021-22 school year and is intended to allow the student to continue participating in IEP activities, receiving IEP services, and pursuing IEP goals according to the IEP that was in effect before the student's 22nd birthday. You are receiving this letter because the student named above is eligible to receive this continuation of services.

The student's IEP team, which includes the student and the student's parent/guardian or designated representative, may agree to modify the student's IEP to address loss of progress during the COVID-19 pandemic or write new goals to address newly identified student needs. In addition to HB40, if a student turns 22 after August 30, 2021, the student is allowed to remain in their current school for the duration of the 21-22 academic school year.

To qualify for eligibility, the student must meet the following requirements:

- 1) The student must be a current Chicago resident.
- 2) The student reached or will reach age 22 between March 17, 2020 and the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- 3) The student had an IEP in effect on the day before their 22nd birthday.
- 4) Student in-person instruction, services, or activities were suspended for a period of 3 months or more during the school year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to enable Chicago Public Schools to plan for student placements, please indicate whether you are interested in having your student participate in this in-person program during the 2021-22 school year. Students that meet the criteria indicated above pending parent/guardian sign to opt-in by December 1, 2021, will be eligible to return when this form has been provided to the last school of attendance. Opportunities to learn more about the program, as well as a formal request to accept a placement will follow.

Special Note: If you have been selected off of the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) waiting list to receive State-funded developmental services, **please contact your service coordination agency for advice before you take any action in response to this notice.**

Please return this correspondence to enable planning and placement offers. We greatly appreciate your response.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact the district at 773-553-1815 or via email at HB2748@cps.edu .

Sincerely,



Stephanie Jones, PhD
Chief Officer for the Office of Diverse Learner Supports & Services



Dr. Stephanie N. Jones, Chief Officer

Please return this completed form below in the self-addressed stamped envelope that has been provided.

HB 2748 Interest Form Regarding Extended Special Education Eligibility Options Due to HB 2748

Student's Name:

Student's Address:

Student's Date of Birth:

Student ID:

_____ **YES** I am interested in extending my student's eligibility for special education services until the end of the 2021-22 school year.

_____ **MAYBE** I may be interested, pending more information about the program.

_____ **NO** I am NOT interested in extending my student's eligibility for special education services.

Please provide your current contact information below :

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return this correspondence in the enclosed stamped envelope to enable planning and placement offers. We greatly appreciate your response.

