

Resources Memo: COVID-19 How can educators make online instruction accessible to students with disabilities?

Regional Educational
Laboratory
Central

From the National Center for Education Evaluation at IES

How can educators make online instruction accessible to students with disabilities?

As many schools are shifting to online learning during the school closures, educators are considering how best to meet the needs of students with disabilities in this environment. REL Central has compiled resources relevant to online learning for students with disabilities to share in this time of need.

- The [U.S. Department of Education](#) released a supplemental fact sheet that provides information on flexibility in determining how to meet needs of students with disabilities in an online learning environment. The fact sheet supplements the [department's questions-and-answers memo](#) on providing services to students with disabilities during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Some states have developed guidelines for virtual learning for students with disabilities as part of an established online learning program. [The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute](#) provides guidelines for supporting Individualized Education Program accommodations during online instruction.
- Organizations also have resources that were developed to support established online learning programs to serve students with disabilities. The [State Educational Technology Directors Association](#) and the [Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities](#) provide tools that could support the current shift to online learning.
- Research on online learning to serve students with disabilities provides [teacher perspectives](#) and information on [parents' roles and support](#).
- REL Northeast & Islands has curated [additional resources](#) to share methods of providing online instructional support for students with disabilities.

Please contact REL Central if you have questions or need additional support:
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