



Long Beach Unified School District  
Beach Independent Study (IS) Program, TK-12

August 2021

**Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):**

For the 2021-2022 school year, we are offering an independent study option to students and families who choose to not have their child return to a school campus. You have the option to enroll your student in our TK-12 Independent Study Program instead of in-person instruction. This letter will explain:

- Your right to request a parent-teacher conference prior to enrollment to inform your decision.
- The process and your students' rights regarding procedures for enrolling, disenrolling, and re-enrolling in independent study.
- The instructional time that your student will have access to as part of independent study.

**Request Parent-Educator Conference**

It is your right to request a parent-educator conference prior to enrolling your student in Independent Study in order to inform your decision and ensure that it is appropriate for your student.

To request a conference, please contact your child's school of enrollment and ask for an appointment to meet with an administrator or counselor who will share more information about independent study and provide the next steps for enrollment if you are interested.

**Enrolling, Disenrolling & Re-Enrolling**

Once you have determined that you would like to pursue Independent Study, you can begin the enrollment process.

Your child's current school counselor or administrator will submit a referral to Beach IS once eligibility has been determined. Beach staff will contact you to schedule a pupil-parent-educator conference, in order to sign a Master Agreement.

Once you are enrolled in Independent Study and would like to return to in-person instruction, you must follow the procedure for disenrolling.

To request a return to in-person instruction, please email the Beach counselor or administrator, stating your child's name, the reason for the request, and include your contact information. The district will make every effort to re-enroll students in their prior placement should they choose to return to in-person instruction, but this cannot be guaranteed. Should you need to return to Independent Study, please begin the enrollment process again.



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**Instructional Time**

The goal of our Independent Study program is to provide an alternative to in-person instruction to students whose health may be put at risk by attending class face-to-face. As such, Independent Study is an educational program that provides instruction based on the state-adopted content standards by certificated teachers. There are specific requirements for instructional time that may include both synchronous and asynchronous work. These expectations will also be outlined in the students’ written Master Agreement, which must be signed prior to enrollment.

Instructional Time	Description	Length & Frequency by Grade Level
Synchronous Instructional Time	Classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communications and involving live, two-way communication between the teacher and student. Synchronous instruction shall be provided by the teacher(s) of record for that student.	<p><b><u>TK - Grade 5</u></b>- 60 minutes per day</p> <p><b><u>Grades 6 - 12</u></b>- weekly 30 minutes for each course</p>
Live Interaction	Interaction between the student and school classified or certificated staff, and may include peers, provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness including but not limited to: wellness checks, progress monitoring, provision of services and instruction. This interaction may take place in person or in the form of internet or telephonic communication.	<p><b><u>Grades TK - 8</u></b> Daily</p>
Asynchronous Instructional Time	Forms of instruction that do not occur in the same place or at the same time. The term is most commonly applied to various forms of digital and online learning in which students learn from instruction—such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own—that are not being delivered in person or in real time. Yet asynchronous learning may also encompass a wide variety of instructional interactions, including email exchanges between teachers, online discussion boards, and course-management systems that organize instructional materials and correspondence, among many other possible variations.	<p><b><u>Minimum Time:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>TK - Grade 5:</u></b> 2 hours and 30 minutes/day - 5 hours/day</p> <p><b><u>Grades 6 - 12:</u></b> 4 hours/day - 6 hours/day</p>
In-Person Teacher Conference	Interaction between the student and teacher of record to review student’s academic progress and provide wellness checks.	<p><b><u>All Grades:</u></b> 1 meeting per month in person</p>

Parents or guardians may select an instructional program that best suits their child’s needs. If you have any questions, please contact the counselor or administrator at your child’s school.