

What parents need to know about **One Year Plus**

What is **One Year Plus?**

A districtwide initiative that began early in 2012, One Year Plus embodies Baltimore City Public Schools' commitment to promoting high achievement for students with disabilities.

Students with disabilities who are working toward high school graduation need Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to help them meet standards at each grade. One Year Plus gives IEP teams and service providers tools to support students and help them make *more* than one year's progress in 12 months.

During an IEP team meeting, the team should discuss the accommodations, supports and services that will enable students to achieve a year's progress—*plus* a reasonable amount of *additional* growth. This way, each year, students will narrow the gap between their actual achievement and the achievement needed to meet grade-level standards.



“OYP allows the IEP team to determine how to reduce the gap between a student’s performance and grade level standards. It is especially important for parents and teachers to work together to determine the supports and services the student needs to increase student achievement!”

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How does One Year Plus differ from the way my child's IEP has been developed in the past?

With One Year Plus, the IEP team will consider your child's strengths and needs to develop academic goals to close the specific gaps between your child's academic achievement (noted in the Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance in the IEP) and grade-level standards.

This means that IEP team members must be familiar not only with your child, but with the general education curriculum, including state academic content standards and state assessments. This enables the team to recognize your child's strengths and needs with respect to being successful in his or her current grade level standards, and to make appropriate decisions related to setting performance goals.

What could One Year Plus look like on my child's IEP?

The IEP team, including the parent, will discuss and determine all appropriate IEP components. On an IEP, One Year Plus will be seen in the goals, objectives, accommodations, supports and services designed to increase student achievement.

What do One Year Plus goals, supports and services mean for my child?

With the supports and services of One Year Plus, your child will have the opportunity to make progress in reaching the One Year Plus goal: closing the gap and achieving at a level that meets the standards set for all students in that grade.

Who should I contact if I have questions or want more information about One Year Plus?

Please contact the IEP team chair at your child's school or the Special Education Parent Response Unit (443-984-1561) for information and assistance.

An IEP that reflects One Year Plus represents the professional judgment and reasonable calculation of an IEP team as to the progress that the individual student is expected to make if the IEP is implemented as intended. Please keep in mind that One Year Plus does not guarantee the amount of progress a student will make within the active IEP. Progress can also be affected by significant changes in the student's circumstances including, but not limited to, nature of disability and attendance.