

Independent Study Program Procedures

Presentation to the Board of Trustees

June 11, 2019

Student Support Services Division

Independent Study

[California Education Code 51745](#) describes two types of Independent Study programs.

- a) Short-term
- b) Long-term

In PUSD we are updating the Administrative Regulation (AR) [6158](#) related to Independent Study.

Short-Term Independent Study Contract

In the updated Administrative Regulation the District is making the following revisions for the 2019-20 school year:

- A. Short-Term Independent Study - Short-term voluntary Independent Study program may extend for not less than five (5) and not more than ~~twenty (20)~~ **ten (10)** consecutive school days.

Short-Term Independent Study Summary of Procedures

- A. A student must be absent from school for five (5) consecutive days in order to qualify for short-term Independent Study.
- B. The short-term Independent Study contract may not extend for a period longer than ~~twenty (20)~~ **ten (10)** school days.
- C. The student/parent must notify the school administrator of intentions to go on a trip or to be absent for non-medical reasons at least (10) days prior to the absence.
- D. Students whose achievement is below grade level standards, based on multiple measures, may not be eligible for short-term Independent Study.
- E. Students who have previously been granted an Independent Study agreement and have not successfully completed a previous agreement are not eligible for a subsequent short-term Independent Study agreement.
- F. There are no Independent Study agreements issued the first twenty (20) school days of the year.
- G. There are no Independent Study agreements issues the last twenty (20) school days of the year.

The draft of full procedures for the [2019-20 school year are linked here](#)

Long-Term Independent Study Program

Students in grades K-12 who wish to enroll in the Long-Term Independent Study program should contact the Principal of Village High School.

The [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 6158 outlines the eligibility criteria](#) for a student who is interested in a long-term Independent Study program. Contracts may be offered up to one school year.

Equivalency

The district's independent study option shall be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom instruction to enable participating students to complete the district's adopted course of study within the customary time frame. Students in independent study shall have access to the same services and resources that are available to other students in the school and shall have equal rights and privileges.

Long-Term Independent Study Program

The Independent Study Program is located on the Village High School campus.

Weekly appointments are arranged for each student who is enrolled in the program. During these appointments, assignments are reviewed, clarifying questions answered and new assignments are given.

Total program capacity is 30 students (K-12) - during the 2018-19 school year, the program was comprised of 28 high school and 2 middle school students.