

Travis Unified Independent Study Program (ISP) – Middle School

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Independent Study for elementary school students and how do I apply to enroll?

Independent Study is an alternative to classroom instruction with a school district's course of study and is not an alternative curriculum. To apply, fill out the application on the following website <https://forms.office.com/r/uXd423FcE4> The ISP Principal can be reached at (707) 437-8265 x9161.

How does Independent Study differ from distance learning for Middle School?

Independent Study is taught by a parent / guardian and uses district-approved curriculum. Synchronous instruction with a TUSD teacher will be required for 30 minutes one day a week, as scheduled by the teacher, additionally, staff will have a daily live check-in with students as arranged by the teacher. The student is expected to work independently and complete all work assigned by the Independent Study Teacher. This work is equivalent to a full school day, for each school day.

Can I be out of the district or state while on Travis Independent Study?

No, our school district does not provide Independent Study for students who live out of our district boundaries, this includes students who are on an Inter-district Agreement (IDA). Nor are we allowed to service students through Independent Study that are out of state.

In the Independent Study program, what is the role of the parent/guardian? What is the role of the student?

Parent/Guardian

Provides instruction using district approved
Monitor child's progress
Ensures child is attending weekly synchronous instruction
Supervises assessments and completion of work

Student

Every school day, the child completes all assigned work which represents a full school day
Participates in required local district assessments
Attends weekly synchronous instruction with teachers (including daily live interactions)

What is the daily requirement to complete work?

Students must complete the equivalent of work completed in a normal school day.

What happens if a student doesn't complete their assignments?

When a student fails to complete three consecutive assignments and/or has three consecutive days of non-engagement, to include the daily live check-ins, the teacher and/or administrator will begin an intervention process to support the student. If the student does not make progress, this process could result in the student being dropped from the program. The parent could appeal this decision to the Placement Review Board (PRB) to further discuss the student's placement.

Can a student with an IEP enroll in Independent Study?

The program does not offer special education services. If your child has an IEP and you would still like to explore ISP as an option, please reach out to the Site Administrator at your child's current school.

How are the classes organized?

For each class, students are expected to independently complete daily assignments based on the school district's course of study. Your child will be expected to participate in weekly synchronous instruction for a minimum of 30 minutes.

How do school-based assessments work?

Students will be expected to participate in school-based assessments to monitor their progress and tailor material to their instructional needs. The results of these assessment remain with Travis Unified and are not shared with state or federal agencies. We use MAP for grades 7-12. MAP will be administered by the Independent Study Teacher and scheduled at a time determined by the teacher.

What determines success in ISP?

Success in Independent Study depends on you and your child's commitment to the program. Here are some strategies for success:

- Set up a schedule for learning
- Stay in communication with the ISP teacher
- Ensure there are still social opportunities for your child
- Setup a dedicated learning space
- Set clear expectations and rules around learning

Is ISP right for my child?

Independent study can be a great option for some students; however, it may not be the right option for every student who is not thriving at a traditional school. Some students might be better served in an educational option that is classroom-based and offers differentiated instruction from a certificated teacher. Our schools offer intervention services on-site that provide targeted instruction. Consider an on-site classroom-based option if any of the following apply:

- Your child struggles in academics with poor grades
- Your child is not meeting grade-level standards