



*News from Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley & the
MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

On the Desktop - July 9, 2020

Comprehensive Special Education Guidance for the 2020-21 School Year

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, Leaders of Collaboratives, Executive Directors of Approved Special Education Schools, Private School Leaders and Special Education Directors,

The attached [Comprehensive Special Education Guidance for the 2020-21 School Year](#) (*download*) supplements the [Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance](#) (*download*), released on June 25. The Initial Fall Reopening Guidance asks schools and districts to prioritize and begin planning for in-person instruction, while simultaneously preparing blueprints for both remote learning and a hybrid school model (a combination of in-person and remote learning), should local conditions change this school year. This document complements the Initial Fall Reopening Guidance by providing further information on supporting students with disabilities during the upcoming school year. It also provides necessary information in support of schools and districts, as they develop the portion of their reopening plans specifically related to special education.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to provide the highest quality educational services to students with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley
Commissioner