

Welcome to School Year 2027!

Greetings,

We are thrilled to welcome you back as we gear up for a successful and inspiring School Year 2027! We hope your summer was refreshing and that you are ready to team up for another impactful year supporting our students.



Our focus remains on providing exceptional educational experiences while also ensuring the most effective use of our resources. We operate with a share proportionate funding model, and our commitment is to maximize our budget to directly benefit our students in non-public programs. We closely evaluate every dollar to ensure our funding directly supports high-quality instruction, equitable services, and positive outcomes for each student. **CPS is working with a smaller budget than last year.**

To refine our instruction and maximize instructional time, we are introducing a few key service updates this year. Reading and Writing will now be combined into a cohesive, 60-minute session to build stronger literacy skills in an integrated setting. Additionally, we are shifting away from standalone, pull-out Independent Functioning services. Independent functioning centers on helping students navigate daily routines, stay organized, complete tasks, and advocate for themselves with growing autonomy. Rather than pulling students out of class, we hope that teachers and school staff will now weave these self-reliance skills directly into daily instruction. Classrooms can incorporate supportive strategies like visual schedules, step-by-step checklists, graphic organizers, and self-advocacy prompts during regular learning activities. Or if students qualify for title one. They may receive executive functioning.

These enhancements ensure our support is seamless, practical, and focused on helping your child thrive in the classroom. ***Services for School Year 2027 will run from September 8, 2026 until funds are exhausted.*** Specific details are outlined in each student's individualized service plan.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing collaboration. Your partnership is essential to building an inclusive, encouraging, and productive learning community. We look forward to all that School Year 2027 has in store and remain committed to working closely with you every step of the way.

“Thank you for your continued dedication to our students.”

Services for School Year 2027 will run from September 8, 2026 until funds are exhausted.

See below the FY27 IDEA services and providers for Catholic schools followed by necessary updates:

Instruction:

- Catapult Learning
- Chicago Home Tutor
- United Stand
- EB Pediatric Resources

Social Work:

- CJL Counseling Services
- Blossom Well Therapy
- Holistic Counseling and Development Services
- EB Pediatric Resources

Speech:

- Communication Clubhouse
- Play and Say Therapy
- Soundbox Speech Therapy
- EB Pediatric Resources
- The Stepping Stones Group
- Comprehensive Learning
- Speech Learning Center
- DBA Akinlawon Speech Therapy Services

Hearing:

- Chicago Hearing Society

Please note that the following contacts for IDEA services for Catholic school students

- Office of Catholic Schools contact: Amy Lindel, alindel@archchicago.org
- Service Plan/Service Delivery Process Updates: Sayisha Pendleton, spendleton2@cps.edu and Kandyce Bynum, kkbynum@cps.edu
- Evaluation updates: Christine Yahn, cayahn@cps.edu

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FY27 NP IDEA Services
PRIMARY SERVICES

- **Instruction:** ELA and Math instructional support to improve present level of academic achievement and functional performance (Avg min/session: 60)
- **Speech Language Therapy:** Therapy focusing on treating speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders (Avg min/session:30)
- **Social Work:** Area focusing on treating and improving challenges as it relates to behavioral, mental, and emotional health. This can include advocacy, intensive support, crisis interventions, and home-school communication. (Avg min/session: 45)
- **Social Emotional:** Area focuses on developing students' skills in social interaction, emotional regulation, and self-awareness. These goals aim to improve a student's ability to navigate social situations, manage their emotions, and understand their own feelings and behaviors. (Avg min/session: 60)
- **Audiology:** Services to assist with and augment hearing (Avg min/session: 45)
- **Assistive Technology:** Technological devices that support and aid in improving abilities and capacity of a student with a disability

SECONDARY SERVICES (warranted justification and funds availability)

- **Occupational Therapy:** Therapy focusing on engaging in activities of daily living (ADLS) and occupational performance
- **Physical Therapy:** Therapy focusing on physical function to improve physical abilities
- **Psychology:** Area focusing on administering assessments and tests, and can also include psychological counseling and interventions
- **Augmentative Communication:** Devices and tools that assist in a student communicating in ways other than talking
- **Counseling:** Area to assist in helping attain academic goals and personal development. Can also include therapeutic services
- **Vision:** Services to assist with and help eyesight
- **Nursing:** Services to support students with physical health and well-being regarding medical needs

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