

Overview of Specialized Programs

Different charter schools across the city offer Specialized Programs, which are designed to meet the needs of students with cognitive and intellectual disabilities and/or students with disabilities requiring therapeutic behavioral supports. Students interested in these programs may seek referrals through their IEP teams at their current schools. The specialized program team at the school will review each student referral to determine whether the student will benefit from the program. Decisions are also contingent upon existing program capacity. Students placed in programs will retain their current school assignments, but attend at the program site to receive appropriate support services. NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS) will assist with connecting IEP teams and families seeking referrals to the specialized programs.

Types of Specialized Programs

Academic

For students with cognitive and intellectual disabilities, there are academic-based specialized programs. These programs provide intensive academic supports and also support social skills and adaptive skills. Instruction for students is usually delivered via small-groups.

Behavioral

For students with exceptionalities that require therapeutic behavioral supports, there are behavioral-based specialized programs. These types of programs provide additional instruction on social-emotional skills, increased therapeutic supports, and low-staff to-student ratios.

NOLA-PS Specialized Program Guide

If you have any questions or are looking for information on schools with programs that may fit the specialized needs of your student, please review the [Program Guide](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How can I enroll my child in a specialized program?

Families interested in these programs may seek referrals through their IEP teams at their current schools. NOLA-PS can assist families with connecting families and IEP teams seeking referrals.

What if my child's current school does not offer a specialized program?

If the IEP team at the child's current school decides a specialized program best meets the individualized needs of a student, that student would retain their current school assignment and then receive services in the specialized program.

Contact Information: Please contact Justin Allison (jjallison@nolapublicschools.org) with any questions you have regarding Specialized Programs.