Envisioning a Path to Graduation: Student Four Year Academic Plan



THE CHALLENGE

Earning a high school diploma is a vital step toward future success. However, in California, only 70% of students with disabilities graduate with a diploma each year. In Calexico USD, that number was even lower in 2021, with just 56% of students with disabilities graduating. These numbers highlighted the urgent need to create more supportive pathways to graduation.

THE SOLUTION

As part of California's Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) process, Calexico USD received support from their System Improvement Leads (SIL) coach and participated in the SIL Graduation Network. Through this work Calexico USD discovered a highly effective strategy, the Student Four Year Academic Plan.

THE IMPACT

Graduation rates for students with disabilities in Calexico USD increased 31% in two years.



"In 4 years, the expectation, the absolute expectation, is that every student, regardless of the program that their disability necessitates, will be earning a high school diploma."

Dennis Price

Special Education Director, Calexico Unified School District



Watch <u>this video</u> to learn more about Calexico's inspirational story.

ENVISIONING A PATH TO GRADUATION: STUDENT FOUR YEAR ACADEMIC PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND TOOLS

🚹 4 Year Academic Plan

- Counselors, case managers, and students work collaboratively to complete the <u>initial 4 Year</u> Academic Plan
- Review at least annually with student and families at IEP meeting
- Adjust the plan as needed
- Create and implement an action plan if the student becomes at risk of credit deficiency

2 Tips:

- Regular and effective communication between administrators, special education case managers, school psychologists, school counselors, students, and families is key to ensuring the benefits of credit monitoring.
- Case managers and counselors will benefit from regular collaboration to review the 4 Year Plans and Am I On Track forms.
- Modify the forms to fit your district's unique needs.







