

UPDATES

Office of Special Education Michigan Department of Education December 2013

WHAT'S NEW?

Data Collection

- Fall 2013 MSDS General Collection and Fall 2013 Early Childhood Collections are closed. There are 11 districts that did not certify their MSDS General Collection on-time. Districts had until 11:59 p.m. on November 27 to complete and certify their data in order to avoid a penalty equal to 5% of the district's total state school aid for the school year.

Monitoring

- Thank you to the ISD monitors and locals who participated in the B-12 (Early Childhood Transition) Data Verification activity. The hard work and quick turnaround reduced the number of incomplete or noncompliant student files from over 6000 to 72. This will result in findings of noncompliance for 28 locals. We will continue to work to understand the issues that caused the problems and how we can correct them.
- Based on the Fall monitoring activities, 28 locals will receive findings of noncompliance in the December workbook. We will also issue 45 findings for B-11 (Child Find) based on MSDS data and 14 findings for Timely, Valid, Reliable (TVR) data based on a verification activity that the monitors conducted in the fall. The TVR is a new finding being issued for the first time.

Medicaid

- **The federal auditors from the Office of Auditor General are now in Michigan** and auditing the Michigan School Based Services Program. Most of their interaction will be with Michigan Medicaid Program staff who will keep us updated on how things are going. **Expect a report in April 2014.**
- There are a couple services that Medicaid has recently determined **are reimbursable FOR 2012-13** that were previously NOT reimbursable. They are:
 - 1. Transportation provided (as last resort) by taxi.**
 - 2. Agency fees related to contracted staff;** these costs may be claimed in your quarterly financial reports under the Administrative Outreach Program. Look for more detailed guidance from Medicaid OR send your questions about these changes **before you submit your Medicaid Allowable Expenditure**

Report, to Kevin Bauer (517-241-8398, BauerK2@michigan.gov) or Amy Kanter (517-373-4522, KanterA@michigan.gov).

Low Incidence Outreach

Upcoming Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) test dates:

- December 13, 2013 (Friday) MDE-LIO, Lansing
- January 10, 2014 (Friday) Oakland ISD
- January 17, 2014 (Friday) MDE-LIO, Lansing

Early Childhood

- The B-12 Validation Opportunity completed by the ISD Planner/Monitors resulted in a 98.4% compliance rate for the state for Indicator B-12 (IEP by age 3). Thank you for those who assisted in this validation opportunity.
- A point of consideration, any clarifying data received after Monday, November 18, 2013 could not be included because data analysis was underway in order to submit the data to CIMS for the December Workbook by the required deadline.
- We are accepting ideas for data quality alerts that would be helpful to the field as we are trying to understand how to improve data collection through MSDS.
- There are a few districts that will have findings issued for B-12 for the IEPs that did not take place by the child's third birthday. The B-12 findings will be loaded into the CIMS December workbook.
- Indicator B-7 Child Outcomes Data reports will be emailed to the ISD Special Education Directors in December. Please forward this information to the local districts, as they will not receive a separate email.

Early On (Early Intervention, Part C of IDEA)

- The Office of the Auditor General has released an *Early On* performance audit. The report can be accessed at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/13_14/r313200012.pdf .
- The results of local *Early On* programs' desk audits will be announced in the December 15th CIMS workbook. Please acknowledge and proceed as directed in the CIMS workbook.

Michigan Special Education Reference (MI-SER)

The following documents are now on the MI-SER:

- Compliance Standards – October 2013
- Compliance Standards Fillable – October 2013
- Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE) – October 2013
- Surrogate Parents and Special Education Decision-Making Guidance – November 2013
- Eight Office of Civil Rights “Dear Colleague” letters dated 2010-2013
- OSEP Policy Letters
 - Early Intervention Letter to Zirkel - RtI – September 10, 2013
 - FAPE Letter to Kelly – Physical Education – October 23, 2013
 - FAPE Letter to Tymeson – Physical Education and Specially Designed Instruction - July 31, 2013

UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Low Incidence Outreach workshops: Please see MDE-LIO website at <http://mde-lio.cenmi.org/> for more information regarding the workshops below.
 - 1/7/2014 – 4/29/2014 Regional Braille Class – Birch Run
 - 1/9/2014 – Power Hour: Programming Cochlear Implants – Webinar
 - 1/18/2014 – Adventure Day at Camp T – Greenville (A day filled with fun indoor and outdoor activities for students who are blind/visually impaired and their families).
 - 3/28/2014 – Transition and Employment Conference – Lansing (MDE-LIO and Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) collaborate to bring Karen Wolffe, who will give valuable insight regarding transitioning and employment of the blind/visually impaired).
- Early Childhood Special Education; ECSE (Part B of IDEA, Section 619) has several face-to-face trainings scheduled for Child Outcomes 0-5 Training: *Early On* and Preschool Special Education. Additional information and registration may be found at:
<http://eotta.ccesa.org/Training.php?Cat=2&ID=43>
- If you need to complete the online training on Preschool Childhood Outcomes, the training is still available at:
<http://eotta.ccesa.org/Training.php?cat=21>

- Early Childhood Special Education; ECSE (Part B of IDEA, Section 619) has developed an online training to assist in understanding the Indicator B-7 Preschool Child Outcomes data reports that will be emailed in December. This free online training is available at:
<http://eotta.ccrea.org/News.php?ID=216>