

## UPDATES

### Office of Special Education Michigan Department of Education February 2014

#### **WHAT'S NEW?**

##### **Publications**

- The Annual Performance Report was submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs and is posted to the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education website. District level indicator information will be publicly reported by June 1, 2014.
- The Office of Special Education is beginning the planning process for developing the FFY 2013 through FFY 2018 State Performance Plan.

##### **Accountability**

- The 2013-2014 rule package (2013-116 ED) is pending approval by the Legislative Services Bureau. This rule package proposes changes to: the initial Evaluation, Eligibility Determination, and IEP development process; Teacher Qualifications; ISD Plans for the Delivery of Special Education Services; and, Due Process. We expect that public comment will occur sometime in February or March. Videos will be available on our website that discusses the proposed changes.

##### **Data Collection**

- The certification deadline for the Early Childhood Spring Collection is February 19, 2014.
- March 19, 2014, is the submission deadline for the MSDS Spring Collection.
- District graduation dropout rates are not available in MI School Data (<https://www.mischooldata.org/>) for **internal preview**. These rates are embargoed, and cannot be released to the media or any outside party until after the data are delivered to the Michigan Legislature. A notification will be sent by the CEPI when these data are released from embargo.

##### **Finance**

###### Federal

- Flowthrough
  - Fiscal Year 2012-13 Supplemental Award - Recently all states received a Federal Part B supplemental award. Those funds were recently allocated to ISDs. The Flowthrough grant will need to be amended for access to the

supplemental award. For those ISDs that have already filed their 2012-13 Flowthrough Federal Expenditure Report (FER) a communication with instructions to be followed has been sent.

- Final Narrative Reports – Beginning with the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Flowthrough grant, Final Narrative Reports will no longer be required.
- Program Fiscal Reviews (PFRs) – Beginning in January 2014, review of the most recent Special Education Actual Cost Report (SE-4096) will be included in the PFRs.
- Part B Maintenance of Effort – The Maintenance of Effort testing for Fiscal Year 2012-13 will begin in March 2014.

## Monitoring

- The winter monitoring cycle began on January 27<sup>th</sup> and will continue through February 28<sup>th</sup>. There are 53 on-site visits and 33 Desk Audits for B-4 Suspension/Expulsion and General Supervision Monitoring (GSM).
- A new Discipline Toolkit has been prepared and 15 locals will be required to use this toolkit as they participate in increased technical assistance regarding suspension and expulsion. Both ISD monitors and State Technical Assistance providers have been trained in using this.

## Medicaid

- **Medicaid HMOs denying therapies for children.** The MI Medicaid Health Plans/HMOs are still occasionally sending families and children/students to the ISDs for therapies/health care services usually not delivered by schools. When this happens, send an email with the basic information to Kevin Bauer [BauerK2@michigan.gov](mailto:BauerK2@michigan.gov) at Medicaid and copy Jane Reagan.
- **Audits:**
  - **Jane does quarterly audits to verify staff credentials for Medicaid**—results continue to improve. Remind your Medicaid coordinator to use the names of the clinicians as they appear on their licenses for efficient reviews and follow-ups.
  - **U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) auditors still auditing MI Medicaid School Based Services**—since October 2013, and continue to ask the Medicaid folks for basic program, legislative, regulatory and background documents, published policy, etc. No more information until later this spring, 2014.
  - **MI Medicaid staff audits by John Lambert**—ongoing. He audits ~2-4 ISDs/year, and publishes the results online and develops lists of 'common errors'. Jane also posts results in the MI Medicaid SBS dropbox folder (only ISDs have access).

- **Upcoming meetings, Medicaid School Based Services Implementers: March 11, 2014 and May 20, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Ingham ISD,** and available online with audio and web connections.
- **Maintaining current email list:** Be sure to inform Jane Reagan of staff changes so she can keep her email list current: [ReaganJ@michigan.gov](mailto:ReaganJ@michigan.gov)

### **Low Incidence Outreach**

- Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) Testing: There are four testing slots per day at each location – 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
  - February 7th (Friday) at MDE-LIO in Lansing
  - February 21st (Friday) at MDE-LIO in Lansing
  - March 7th (Friday) at MDE-LIO in Lansing
  - March 21st (Friday) at Kent ISD in Grand Rapids

### **Early Childhood**

- Three revised standards documents have been posted to the Office of Great Start website: *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant and Toddler Programs*, *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten*, and *Michigan Out-of-School-Time Standards of Quality*. All three can be accessed and downloaded at [www.michigan.gov/greatstart](http://www.michigan.gov/greatstart).
- Indicator B-7 Child Outcomes Data reports were emailed to the ISD Special Education Directors and ISD Planner/Monitors in January. Please forward this information to the local districts, as they did not receive a separate email.
- The *Early On* federal application will be released for public comment. As required by federal regulations, a public hearing will be held in February. Please look for the upcoming announcement with the dates and times.
- Early Childhood Special Education; ECSE (Part B of IDEA, Section 619) will present break out sessions at the Upper Peninsula Special Education Conference in February and at the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) conference in March on ECSE Updates on Indicators B-6, B-7, B-12, Child Outcomes (Indicator B-7), and Inclusive Environments (Indicator B-6).

### **Michigan Special Education Reference (MI-SER)**

The following documents are now on the MI-SER:

- OSEP Policy Letters
  - Maximizing Flexibility in Administration of Federal Grants –September 13, 2013

- Part C Central Directory Requirements Letter to Arons – September 24, 2013
- Parental Concerns Prior to IEP Meeting Letter to Breton – September 24, 2013
- LD Criteria Letter to McBride – November 25, 2013
- Reimbursement for Parental Placed Preschool Services Letter to Casey – November 26, 2013
- Child with a Disability Letter to Delisle – December 20, 2013
- Distribution and Use of Funds Letter to Pegament – December 20, 2013
- Civil Rights
  - Notice of Language Assistance - Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline – January 8, 2014

## **UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

- MI-Access Functional Independence Social Studies is coming, and you are encouraged to participate in shaping this assessment!
  - The spring 2014 MI-Access Functional Independence Social Studies Pilot Test is currently open for registration. This pilot is open to any student who is assessed using MI-Access Functional Independence in any subject area in grades 5, 8 and 11. LEA's that are participating in the 22i Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG), may also use this testing event toward the participation requirements for that program.
  - The pilot test is based on the EGGLEs/EHSCEs released last year in Social Studies, and are found on the MI-Access web site. Your participation is encouraged, as we are looking to collect information and feedback from staff and students in order to move forward with a quality operational alternate assessment for Social Studies in the Spring of 2015. To register, please contact John Jaquith at [JaquiteJ@michigan.gov](mailto:JaquiteJ@michigan.gov) or 517-335-1987.
- **Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has been a partner agency with the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) federal grant since the first award in 2002** and many renewals since. One outstanding product of the grant is a series of FREE online, self-paced trainings that offer continuing education credits to a wide variety of professionals. The latest: TBI and substance abuse—will be available in February 2014, along with pediatric, adult, and overview of TBI publicly-funded services. All are at this link: [www.MiTBItraining.org](http://www.MiTBItraining.org)
  - The current Michigan TBI grant funding expires April 1, 2014 and MDE will participate in writing a new grant application due March 7, 2014, that will emphasize services for special populations, including youth.
- 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 an online training to assist in understanding the Indicator B-7 Preschool Child Outcomes data reports that were emailed in January. This free online training is available at <http://eotta.ccesa.org/News.php?ID=216>
- Early Childhood Special Education; ECSE (Part B of IDEA, Section 619) has an in-person training in Marquette at Marquette-Alger RESA on Improving the Quality of Indicator B7 Child Outcome Data in February. Additional information and registration may be found at <http://eotta.ccesa.org/Training.php?Cat=21>
- Assessments & Outcomes for Children with Cochlear Implants – Online /Webinar – February 6, 2014 (An online U of M Sound Support Power Hour, co-sponsored by MDE-LIO, for those who work with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 4:00-5:00 p.m. - ASHA/SCECH/CEUs available)
- Using Process Time: Why It Is Important and Techniques To Improve One's Process Time- Video Conference – February 8, 2014 (EIPA Video Conference presented by Barbara J. Woodhead, EIPA Rater, RID CI/CT, B.A. English & Kelly Brakenhoff, EIPA Rater, B.A. English)
- "Let's Get Outside and Play" Outdoor Recreation Open House at Camp Tuhsmeheeta – Greenville – February 22 and March 29, 2014 (MDE-LIO is offering an open house for students with visual impairments and their families. Warm up by the campfire or hike on the snowy trails at Camp T's wintry wonderland. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)
- What to do with Babies? – Online /Webinar – March 6, 2014 (An online U of M Sound Support Power Hour, co-sponsored by MDE-LIO, for those who work with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 4:00-5:00 p.m. - ASHA/SCECH/CEUs available)
- "Transition Success Factors" Conference – Lansing – March 28, 2014 (MDE-LIO and BSBP collaborate to bring Dr. Karen Wolffe, who will give valuable insight regarding transitioning and employment of the blind/visually impaired. 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- **On-demand regional Braille and adaptive technology classes are also available.** Please see the MDE-LIO website (<http://www.mde-lio.cenmi.org/>) for more information regarding the above workshops and classes.