



Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education (OSE)

OSE Update

October 2021

What's New?

Alt+Shift

- Alt+Shift welcomes **Joel Selby** as its new accessibility contractor. Joel is Special Projects Manager at Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (ISD) where he provides training, consultation, and technical assistance on accessible digital materials. He has been involved in the Alt+Shift Accessible Materials Made Right (AMMR) effort as a participant, implementation leadership team member, and member of the AMMR community.
- Alt+Shift will present sessions on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and assistive technology (AT) at the Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) annual conference in Orlando. Questions? Contact Carolyn.Ohearn@altshift.education or Sara.Pericolosi@altshift.education.
- Alt+Shift's online accessibility course modules, [Accessible Materials Made Right](#), are available at no cost through EduPaths.

Medicaid School Services Program (SSP)

- **School Based Services (SBS) Now Called School Services Program (SSP)**
 - Since 1993, Michigan Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) have participated in a federal and state-funded Medicaid reimbursement program.
- **Medicaid Policy Updates**
 - A workgroup was formed to incorporate the expansion into the current Policy Manual and to align with State Plan Amendments. Due to COVID-19, several Medicaid policies changes have been posted to enhance Medicaid reimbursement. To review the most recent Medicaid Bulletins and Proposed Policy changes, click this [link](#). For more information about Medicaid SSP Policy, contact Kevin Bauer at BauerK2@michigan.gov.
- **Resources related to policy:**
 - [Toolkit for Responding to COVID-19 Cases](#)
 - *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* - This new toolkit from CDC includes resources to prepare school administrators to respond quickly when someone with COVID-19 has been in the school or at a school



event. The toolkit also includes great information on [school testing for COVID-19](#).

- [Beyond the Mask: Promoting Transformation and Healing in School Reopening](#)
 - *Center on Law and Social Policy (CLASP)* - CLASP has released a new analysis of state K-12 policies and plans for their American Rescue Plan funds. The report includes an interesting analysis of trends in how states are addressing student mental health, including how they are prioritizing a behavioral health workforce diverse in both identity and credentials.
 - [The Landscape of Federal K-12 School Health Efforts, 2010-2020](#)
 - *Child Trends* - This report includes a systemic review of federal programs, initiatives, and funding streams that support school health.
 - CMS issued [new guidance](#) on coverage and reimbursement of COVID-19 testing--and it includes a section on testing in schools.
- **Staff Pool List (SPL) Resources**
 - Medicaid Coordinators/Implementers must ensure that providers added to the Caring 4 Students (C4S) SPL are eligible based on their funding, services, and qualifications. The C4S program provides reimbursement for Medicaid eligible students with a medical necessity for behavioral health and nursing services.
 - [Staff Pool List Decision Tree PDF for C4S](#)
 - [Staff Pool List Caring 4 Students \(C4S\) \[PDF\]](#)
 - [Public Consulting Group \(PCG\) Claiming System website](#) (for those that process SPL)
 - [Random Moment Time Study PDF](#)
- **Public Consulting Group (PCG)**
 - For more information on the SPL, Quarterly Reports and/or the RMTS process, send emails to miaop@pcgus.com.
- **Google Drive**
 - Access to the drive is administered to the ISD Coordinators and Implementers who support their county's Medicaid SSP and/or provide oversight and training to local entities. Included in the Google drive are resources that partners are currently utilizing, editing, and sharing with others in the field to help provide Quality Assurance and Compliance with Medicaid Policy.



- Documents in the Dropbox and Google may represent historical and outdated information and are **not meant to supersede current Medicaid Policy** and are **not vetted by MDHHS and/or MDE**. Please go to the following document for [Google Drive Access](#) . For questions about the drive or to update or remove staff members, please contact Dana Billings at BillingsD1@michigan.gov to forward the information to the coordinator in charge of the drive.
- **Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS)**
 - For more information about CHAMPS or Medicaid reimbursement, contact Amy Kanter at KanterA@michigan.gov.
- **31N**
 - In response to the legislative increase of 31n(6) funds and the provider shortage experienced across the state, MDE and DHHS, along with input from the 31n Advisory Council, are providing flexibility for use of these allocated funds. Guidance for the perimeters around these allowances is included in the attached document or can be accessed by clicking on this [link](#). **Please note your assigned 31n consultant must approve your plans around this flexibility before you proceed.**
 - Chris Robinson, Lauren Kazee, and Scott Hutchins provide technical assistance and support to all 56 ISDs on integrating mental health into their school systems, with an emphasis on providers and resources funded by Section 31n of the State School Aid Act. Click this [link](#) to find out who your assigned consultant is and how to contact them.

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)

- **Becky Dowler** recently completed her orientation and is now serving families as a regional parent mentor in the Bay, Arenac, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties.
- Staff continue to support families through virtual/phone outreach, mentoring, and providing a wealth of printed and electronic information and resources.
- This summer, regional parent mentors participated in outreach events, delivered brochures and information to schools and organizations, and provided learning opportunities to help families plan for the new school year.
- MAF offers a comprehensive [COVID-19 webpage](#) with current state and federal guidance related to early intervention and special education, videos, and resources to address issues families are most concerned about.



- MAF continues to offer free virtual learning opportunities for families, educators, and caregivers. Check out our [events](#), [webinars](#), and [YouTube channel](#).
- The next four-week individualized education program (IEP) course for families will run in October and November. The interactive course is for parents and family members of children/young adults who are currently receiving special education services. It will help them learn to improve the quality of their contributions to their child's IEP and increase their ability to address concerns using the IEP process. The course includes a weekly follow-up call or email with a regional parent mentor.
- MAF Parent Training and Information (PTI) continues its work as a PTI partner for [PACER Project Launch: Connecting Youth to Communities, College, and Career](#). The primary goal of this five-year project is to work together with state vocational rehabilitation services to improve postsecondary, employment, and independent living outcomes for unserved and underserved individuals with disabilities. Activities include meetings with partner agencies to discuss objectives and development of trainings and to discuss the needs of youth in foster care.
 - Year two activities begin with the completion of the Center for Excellence Tool for Asset Mapping specific needs of youth in foster care and extended foster care. The tool will eventually be available for other Parent Centers.
- [Sign-up for our monthly E-newsletter](#) to stay current on all our offerings.

Michigan's MTSS Technical Assistance Center (MiMTSS TAC)

MiMTSS Technical Assistance Catalog

- With a new school year comes the opportunity for districts to re-examine and refine their implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) to meet the needs of all learners. In support of these efforts, the Michigan Department of Education and the MiMTSS Technical Assistance (TA) Center supported educators in applying for and accessing technical assistance offered in the 2021-2022 [MiMTSS Technical Assistance Catalog](#). The catalog offers a variety of universally accessible and targeted professional learning topics. The topics are available for ISDs, both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), districts, school leadership teams, and teachers. More information is available at the MiMTSS TA Center website under [TA Supports](#).



MTSS Resources and Support for MICIP

- The MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center has a number of resources available to Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) users that have also been included in the [MICIP Process Guide](#).
 - Districts might find the resources helpful regardless of partnership with the MiMTSS TA Center. If you have districts engaged or considering engaging in MTSS work and/or partnering with the MiMTSS TA Center, you may be interested to know the MiMTSS TA Center has been working to align with MICIP, including creating resources to help avoid duplication of efforts.
 - One such example is a new reporting feature within the MiMTSS Data System, allowing districts to download reports specific to MICIP, including a Behavior Data Set (PBIS), a Reading and Engagement Data Set, and a District Capacity Data Set. The reports pull several MTSS data graphs and tables from the MiMTSS Data System into a single file that can be exported as a PDF and uploaded into the MICIP Platform as a data object in the Whole Child Data Discovery section.
- Additional resources are also available on the [MTSS Supports for MICIP](#) pages on the MiMTSS TA Center website.

MiMTSS State Conference

- On August 3 and 4, the MiMTSS TA Center held its [16th Annual MTSS Conference](#). The conference focused on advancing effective MTSS implementation to ensure the growth and success of all learners. The two-day conference was an opportunity to learn the latest in research and best practices related to MTSS, strengthen implementation within your context, and connect and share with other attendees.
- The [conference session recordings](#) are available on the MiMTSS TA Center YouTube channel.

Accelerated Learning

- MDE and the MiMTSS TA Center hosted a [series of five webinars focused on Accelerated Learning](#). Each webinar in the series shared the common focus on strategically preparing students for success in grade-level content through the implementation of accelerated learning strategies.
- Webinar recordings can be found at [MDE's Accelerated Learning: Professional Development](#) page.

Social Media

- Follow the MiMTSS TA Center on [Facebook](#).



- Follow the MiMTSS TA Center on Twitter (@MichiganMtss).
- Subscribe to the [MiMTSS TA Center YouTube Channel](#) for updates on educator resources.

Special Education Mediation Services (SEMS)

- To request services, please contact 833-KIDS-1ST or visit the [SEMS website](#).

Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education (OGS-ECD FE) Updates

Part C of IDEA/Early On[®]. Contact Janet Timbs: TimbsJ@michigan.gov

Early On Service Provision and Personnel

- Applications for FY22 State School Aid Act (SSAA) Section 54d will not require a data collection spreadsheet regarding provision of Early On services. A majority of ISDs successfully reported data within the new Services Component within the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) for the End of Year General Collection. Work will be done directly with the few ISDs for which service provision data was not submitted in this collection to ensure completeness of data going forward.
- The FY22 SSAA Section 54d applications will require the personnel data spreadsheet to be updated. We will be collaborating with ISDs and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) over the upcoming months to further explore the possibility of collecting the necessary personnel data within the Registry of Educational Personnel (REP) to the extent possible.

Part B/Section 619/Preschool Special Education. Contact Lisa Wasacz: WasaczL@michigan.gov

Preschool Inclusion

- The Statewide Preschool Inclusion Work Group, under the co-sponsorship of Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht and Preschool Special Education Coordinator, Lisa Wasacz, concluded its initial charge at the end of June with the development of a draft Strategic Action Plan for Inclusion identifying 9 Ideal Features needed for inclusion and resulted in 5 Focus Areas.
- As a reminder, the Inclusion Work Group consists of members of an Inclusion Core Planning Team, members from the Preschool Inclusion State Leadership Team, and various other Local Education Agency and Intermediate School District personnel representing both special and general education perspectives, for a total of 55 different voices present in this work.



- This draft was sent to 7 external reviewers for their insight into the work. The comments and recommendations from the external reviewers are in the process of being considered to result in updates to the original version. As this work continues and finalizes, additional updates will be provided to the Michigan Association of Administration of Special Education (MAASE).

Child Outcomes

- An updated version of the Birth Through 5 Child Outcomes Process Manual may be found at the following URL: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Birth_through_Five_0-5_Child_Outcomes_Summary_Process_Manual_725584_7.pdf

Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START)

- All START trainings and events through the end of 2021 will be held virtually. In-person trainings and events will resume in 2022; circumstances permitting.
- START's 2021-2022 K-12 training series, hosted by Kent ISD, will begin in October. Following up on last year's K12 training series, K12 Year 2 modules are being hosted by Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA).
- START's [Early Childhood training](#) for 2021-2022 will be a three-day, team-based training series to be delivered once in the fall (virtually) and once in the spring (in-person, circumstances permitting). The 2021 Fall Series will be held on October 15, October 29 and November 19, 2021. Applications to attend the fall session, as a three-to-six-member team, are available on the START website. The Spring Series will be held at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West (circumstances permitting) on February 11, March 18, and April 22, 2022. Applications to attend the spring session, as a three-to-six-member team, will be available later this fall. Additional information is available on the START website.
- START's Secondary Transition training for 2021-2022 will be presented as a self-paced learning series for trainers, individuals, or teams. The training, accessed on the START website, will include a full day webinar with an overview of transition and guidance on how to effectively navigate the training with teams. There will also be an opportunity to attend scheduled virtual coaching support sessions and a half-day final webinar to share resources and implementation outcomes. More information about this training will be available by the end of October.
- The [START Connecting Email Update](#) is available on our website.



Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Alt+Shift

- [Mathematics: Reaching All Learners Together](#)
 - **October 18-29, 2021** – Virtual (asynchronous sessions)
 - **October 25, 2021** – Virtual (synchronous sessions)

Medicaid School Services Program (SSP)

- **Quarterly Medicaid SSP Implementer Meetings**
 - Implementer meetings are presented quarterly for coordinators who support the Medicaid SSP. Implementer meetings for 2021-2022:
 - December 7, 2021, from 1-3 p.m.
 - March 15, 2022, from 1-3 p.m.
 - June 14, 2022, from 1-3 p.m.
 - For more information, please contact Dana Billings at BillingsD1@michigan.gov.
- **Regional Medicaid SSP Meetings**
 - [Regional SSP meetings](#) are held in the fall and spring annually. Regional meetings for fall 2021:
 - Region 3- October 18, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 4- October 25, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 5- November 8, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 6- November 15, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 7- November 22, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 8- December 6, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region 9- December 13, 1-3 p.m.
 - Region10- December 15, 1-3 p.m.
 - *Past: Region 1/2- October 12, 1-3 p.m.*
 - For more information, please contact Dana Billings at BillingsD1@michigan.gov.
- **New Implementer/Coordinator Training**
 - Please save the date and register for our [New Implementer Training for the Medicaid School Services Program](#) on Monday, November 1st from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. This will be a live event and you will need to register in the Eventbrite platform. After the live event you will be able to access the recording in the same platform if you are unable to attend. Registration and the recording will remain open until the end of the 2021-2022 academic year for any [new coordinators/implementers](#). **Please forward this invitation to those who would benefit from the training.**



- The link to the registration can be [found here](#) or copy and paste the link into your browser: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-new-
implementer-training-tickets-177532854547](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-new-implementer-training-tickets-177532854547)
- **School Services Program Medicaid Conference 2020-2021**
 - Our 2021 Virtual Conference is still available via the Eventbrite platform. The recorded videos can be accessed after registering [using this link](#).
 - This conference is open to any person interested in the School-Services Medicaid Program including the Caring 4 Students (C4S) Expansion. Please feel free to forward this link to anyone you believe would have an interest in this information.

Training and Collaboration Opportunities for 31n/C4S Staff Members

- Training for 31n/C4S Providers 8:30-10:00
 - Oct 12, 2021, Dec 14, 2021, Feb 8, 2022, Apr 12, 2022
 - Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZEvC-
6uqTouHNJxfRY0MXk_numA-
kt6F8uA/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtrD8tHNOUtB-BRpwMAI-
gKO7wtn5bgo13hBnXOnB-WgjJOPdPE_90BI72](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZEvC-6uqTouHNJxfRY0MXk_numA-kt6F8uA/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtrD8tHNOUtB-BRpwMAI-gKO7wtn5bgo13hBnXOnB-WgjJOPdPE_90BI72)
- Training for 31n/C4S Implementers/Coordinators 8:30-10:00
 - Nov 9, 2021, Jan 11, 2022, Mar 8, 2022, May 10, 2022
 - Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMsD02upzorG9PEExZskeTIW1XH
dM8UpxoO/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGvrzguHN2UsRiARpwEBYjCLO7xmH5c
jfptuTr9OTNYZzffAbN6GrZSSO3A](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMsD02upzorG9PEExZskeTIW1XHdM8UpxoO/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGvrzguHN2UsRiARpwEBYjCLO7xmH5cjfptuTr9OTNYZzffAbN6GrZSSO3A)

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)

Families and professionals can access our [on-demand webinars](#) at any time. Find more details on all learning opportunities on our [event page](#).

- [Four-Week IEP Course](#)
 - **October 14, 21, 28, November 4, 2021** – Virtual
- [Rethinking Guardianship: Supported Decision Making](#)
 - **October 27, 2021** (6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Building Parent Leadership Skills in Early Childhood](#)



- **October 28, November 2, 9, 16, 2021** (7:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Effective Communication with School During COVID-19 with Special Education Mediation Services](#)
 - **October 29, 2021** (12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Why More Education on Sensory Processing Disorders is Needed](#)
 - **November 5, 12, 2021** (1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Collecting Academic and Behavioral Data at Home with Special Education Mediation Services](#)
 - **November 10, 2021** (12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Special Education State Complaints](#)
 - **November 15, 2021** (11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Supporting Our Kids Mental Health Needs and Our Own](#)
 - Two session times offered:
 - **November 17, 2021** (1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.) – Virtual
 - **November 17, 2021** (6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Special Education Mediation Services – The Who, What, Where, When, and How](#)
 - **November 19, 2021** (12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.) – Virtual
- [Rethinking Guardianship: Supported Decision Making](#)
 - **December 8, 2021** (12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.) – Virtual

Michigan’s MTSS Technical Assistance Center (MiMTSS TAC)

- [Acadience Reading Essentials Online Course & Acadience Reading Data Interpretation Online Course](#)
 - **October 16, 2021** (9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) - Virtual
 - Participants have 60 days from enrollment to complete the online courses. Upon successful registration in Wisdomwhere, participants will receive a unique link for Acadience Learning registration. Participants must register with Acadience Learning using the link in the confirmation email. Acadience Learning will ship the training materials to the address provided by each participant.
- [Integration of PBIS and Mental Health – District Readiness Installation Series](#)
 - **November 10, 2021** (10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)



- **February 24, 2022** (10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)
- **May 25, 2022** (10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)
- [Share MTSS Understanding Using the Practice Profile](#)
 - **November 30, December 7, 2021** (9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.) – Virtual
- [PBIS for Children at Home with Michigan Alliance for Families](#)
 - **October 6, October 20, November 3, 2021** (6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.)
- Virtual

Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education (OGS-ECD FE) Updates

2021 Virtual Early On Michigan Conference- Registration is OPEN!

We are excited to offer the 2021 Virtual Early On Conference November 10-12: Strong Foundations for the Future of Early Intervention, offering participants three days of engaging sessions by renowned Michigan and national speakers. View the conference agenda and register now at [CCRESA Office of Innovative Projects | CCRESA Office of Innovative Projects: Event](#).

Birth to Five Child Outcomes Trainings

We are booking outcomes trainings both virtually (now) and for in-person training beginning in 2022. If you and your team need or are interested in outcomes training, please contact Mark Kuipers at mkuipers@ccresa.org to discuss scheduling an ISD/LEA specific training for your team.

We currently have two Child Outcomes VIRTUAL trainings scheduled that are open to anyone and are not ISD/LEA specific:

- Friday, October 15, 2021, 8:30a-12p EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccresa.org/Event.php?id=4148>

- Friday, February 4, 2022, 8:30a-12p EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccresa.org/Event.php?id=4149>

The Next Combined Early On® and Preschool Special Education Virtual updates

- Friday, January 14, 2022, at 9:30am EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccresa.org/Event.php?id=4159>

- Friday, February 11, 2022, at 9:30am EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccresa.org/Event.php?id=4160>



- Friday, April 8, 2022, at 9:30am EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccesa.org/Event.php?id=4161>

- Friday, May 13, 2022, at 9:30am EST

Register here: <https://eotta.ccesa.org/Event.php?id=4162>

Statewide Autism and Resources Training (START)

Please visit the [START events page](#) for more information on statewide trainings.

- [Peer to Peer Statewide Training](#)
 - **November 5, 2021** (8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) - Virtual
- FAPE in the LRE Statewide Training
 - **February 3, 2022** (8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.) – Virtual
 - Information available later this fall
- [21st Annual START Conference](#)
 - **May 2, 2022** (8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) – Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing
 - Registration is expected to open in December.