



Indicator 8: Parent Involvement

Overview of the SD Parent Involvement Survey

Why is the SD Parent Involvement Survey needed?

The South Dakota Office of Special Education Programs (SEP) is federally required by the U.S. Department of Education to survey parents of children receiving special education services under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The SD Parent Involvement Survey is SD’s survey tool for collecting parent feedback. SEP must report the collected survey data in Indicator 8: Parent Involvement on the annual federal State Performance Plan (SPP).

The SD Parent Involvement Survey gives parents of students with disabilities the opportunity to provide confidential input to help guide efforts to improve services and results for children and families in South Dakota. Parents’ responses are extremely important to SEP. The survey results will be summarized for the state as a whole and broken out by individual school district. The summary information will be provided to each school district to assist in improving district and state-wide facilitation of positive parent involvement.

What is Indicator 8: Parent Involvement?

Indicator 8 Overview: Indicator 8 is a results indicator of the federally required State Performance Plan (SPP). Indicator 8 measures the percentage of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.

Indicator 8 Goal: The goal of Indicator 8 is to improve services and results for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) by facilitating positive parent involvement.

Indicator 8 Measurements: Indicator 8 measures two items: Parent Involvement Score and Response Rate.

What is the “Parent Involvement Score” measurement and target?

Parent Involvement Measurement: The Indicator 8 Parent Involvement Score/Percent = [(# of respondent parents who report schools facilitated parent involvement) divided by the (total # of respondent parents of children with disabilities)] times 100.

Parent Involvement Target: SEP and districts strive to meet the below targets:

FFY	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Target:	82.50%	83.00%	83.50%	84.00%	84.50%

What is the “Response Rate” measurement and target?

Response Rate Measurement: The Indicator 8 Response Rate Percent = [(# of respondent parents) divided by (# of parents to whom the surveys were distributed as determined through the previous school year Child Count)] times 100.

Response Rate Target: Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, SEP and districts strive to meet the below target for the response rate from parents:

Target:	20.00%
---------	--------

What is the distribution process for the SD Parent Involvement Survey?

SEP surveys all South Dakota parents of children with disabilities every year through the SD Parent Involvement Survey. SEP provides paper surveys, envelopes, and the on-line survey link to all South Dakota school districts. The online survey is available in English and Spanish. Districts can also request paper surveys in the following languages: Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, Creole, German, Karen, Kuanyama, Nepali, Somali, Swahili, and Tigrinya. Districts distribute the surveys to parents of children receiving special education services. Districts should make every effort to encourage survey participation across all student demographic groups, including race/ethnicity and disability.

What is the distribution timeline for the SD Parent Involvement Survey?

Summer	SEP prints, packages, and mails paper surveys and pre-printed envelopes and provides the on-line survey link to all districts.
September through May 31	Districts distribute the paper or on-line survey to all parents with children receiving special education services in the district. Districts can request printed surveys in a variety of languages.
April	SEP contacts participating districts with to-date response rates below 20%.
August	SEP provides districts with their parent survey results. Districts not meeting the 20% response rate target OR not meeting the parent involvement target will complete the Indicator 8 District Reflection to outline how the district will improve facilitation of positive parent involvement.

What if I have more questions?

For further questions regarding Indicator 8, please:

- Visit Indicator 8 resources at the [SD State Performance Plan website](#)
- Contact Stacy Holzbauer, SEP Program Specialist, at Stacy.Holzbauer@state.sd.us