



## SEP Program Staff

[Linda Turner](#), Division Director  
[Wendy Trujillo](#), Assistant Director  
[Vacant](#), Program Specialist  
[Angel Corrales](#), Data Manager  
[Melissa Flor](#), Program Specialist  
[Debra Willert](#), 619 Coordinator  
[Jessica Ahlers](#), Program Specialist  
[Beth Schiltz](#), Program Specialist  
[Brandi Gerry](#), Program Specialist  
[Melissa Manning](#), Secretary

## Regional Representative List

Contact: 605.773.3678

## Next SPED Director Call

August 17, 2021 - 10am CT

Connect through ADOBE:

<https://taese.adobeconnect.com/sdta/>

For audio dial: 888-387-8686

Passcode: 818 562 8373

## Agenda Items:

- SEP Staff Updates
- State Performance Plan Updates
- State Part B Determination

## SPED Program Highlights

### WELCOME BACK!

**DOE Reorganization.** The Division of Educational Services and Supports is now Division of Special Education and Early Learning Services and Linda Turner is the Division Director. Within the division we have the Office of Special Education and the Office of Early Childhood Services (Birth to Three, Head Start & Preschool). Rebecca Cain is now in the Office of Student Wellness and Supports in the Division of College, Career and Student Success. We wish both Linda Turner and Rebecca Cain well in their new positions. In the coming months, you will receive additional information about the changes happening within the SD Department of Education.

**Campus Rollover.** Infinite Campus has rolled over student data from last year. Please verify that all special education students are accounted for and their information rolled over accurately. You may also want to begin reviewing special education data in preparation for child count. If you find errors, please contact [Teri.Jung@state.sd.us](mailto:Teri.Jung@state.sd.us).

**Updated Regional Representative List.** The SEP regional representative list has been revised and updated to accommodate the restructuring of Special Education Programs. Beth Schiltz is the interim representative for Region 2. Jessica Ahlers is the regional representative for Regions 4 and 5. Melissa Flor is the regional representative for regions 6 and 7.

**Updated IEP wording.** Special Education Programs has updated wording in the word IEP to clean up outdated wording and/or better IEP development. The changes are highlighted in the link provided. There is no change in IEP decisions or processes. Sped Advantage has been notified and Campus will update in 2022.

## DOE Program Highlights

**Students using Braille.** Please contact [Beth.Schiltz@state.sd.us](mailto:Beth.Schiltz@state.sd.us) if you have a student(s) using Braille and needing the Braille assessment form for the state assessment. These are ordered in the fall for the spring assessment.

**School directory information due Sept. 1.** Please take time to update your district/school directory information within the Department of Education's Ed Verification Database. It is critical that your directory information is correct, as this database is the source used by all offices in DOE to officially communicate with school administrators. This information also appears on DOE's website. Superintendents should have received an email on July 15 with instructions. Questions? Please contact [jennifer.rattingleaf@state.sd.us](mailto:jennifer.rattingleaf@state.sd.us).

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## SPED PROGRAM

## FEATURE

## PRESENTATION

### South Dakota Receives Highest Ratings under IDEA

South Dakota has received the highest rating possible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA, for both Parts B and C for the most recent reporting year of federal fiscal year 2019. The state is one of only 12 across the country to meet the requirements and purposes of IDEA under both Parts B and C, according to information released recently from the U.S. Department of Education.

IDEA requires each state to develop a State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report that evaluates the state's efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of the IDEA and describes how the state will improve its implementation.

The Part B SPP/APR includes indicators that measure child and family results and other indicators that measure compliance with the requirements of the IDEA. Since 2015, Part B SPP/APR has included a State Systemic Improvement Plan through which each state focuses its efforts on improving a state-selected child or family outcome through implementation of an evidence-based practice.

IDEA details four categories for determinations:

- **Meets** the requirements and purposes of IDEA
- **Needs assistance** in implementing the requirements of IDEA
- **Needs intervention** in implementing the requirements of IDEA
- **Needs substantial intervention** in implementing the requirements of IDEA

# DOE Program Highlights Cont...

**Report Card coming soon...** This year, the South Dakota Department of Education will again use SD-STARS to make Report Card data available to school districts before it is released to the public. It is VERY important for you to review your general education and special education data for accuracy as it impacts the State Performance Plan report for Special Education.

Aug. 26-Sept. 9 - Districts can submit appeals related to their Report Card data. ***This is the ONLY appeal window.*** Appeal window closes at 5 p.m. CT on Sept. 9. [Click here for more information and timelines.](#)

**Looking for aspiring school leaders.** The 2021 Aspiring School Leaders Retreat will be held Oct. 5-6 at the K-Bar-S Lodge near Keystone. Seats are being held for those applicants accepted for the 2020 program, which was postponed. Additional seats are being made available. All applicants must demonstrate leadership potential and be nominated by a supervising administrator from their school. Learn more at [www.midwestmaple.org](http://www.midwestmaple.org). Applications are due Sept. 1. The retreat is hosted by the Midwest Alliance for Professional Learning and Leadership, with sponsorship from three of its partners: South Dakota Department of Education, School Administrators of South Dakota, and Technology and Innovation in Education.

## Federal Highlights

[Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services \(OSERS\)](#). NEW RESOURCE - Long COVID under Section 504 and the IDEA: A Resource to Support Children, Students, Educators, Schools, Service Providers, and Families. Ensuring support & equity for children & students experiencing long-term health effects from COVID-19. [Additional Resources.](#)

**Upcoming PROGRESS Center Webinar: Six Key Instructional Practices for Accelerating Learning and Promoting Progress for Students with Disabilities.** How can educators accelerate learning and promote progress for students with disabilities as they return to school this fall? Join the PROGRESS Center for a [webinar](#) on August 24, 2021, at 3:00 pm ET. During this webinar, presenters will highlight six high-leverage, evidence-based practices shown to support implementation of high-quality instructional programming for students with and at risk for disabilities regardless of their identified disability category or grade span. These practices were identified through an extensive, systematic meta-analysis. [Learn more and register for the webinar!](#)

## Early Childhood Highlights

**BDI-3 Courses.** BDI-3 live courses are being offered through Riverside Clinical Academy for district staff members administering the BDI-3. Staff members are encouraged to register for the courses. A new URL and password can be obtained by sending a request to [Debra.Willert@state.sd.us](mailto:Debra.Willert@state.sd.us). There are four courses and each is approximately 50 minutes long with the remaining 10 minutes slotted for Q & A. There is also a video to view and a short document to read prior to the trainings.

**Indicator 6 and 7 Virtual Trainings.** Please inform your Early Childhood Special Education staff members and early childhood/preschool teachers of the upcoming Indicator 6 and 7 virtual trainings. Both Indicator trainings will be offered several times this Fall via GoSignMeUp. The first training for Indicator 6 will be Thursday, September 2 from 3:30-4:30 Central Time via Zoom. Registration is open via GoSignMeUP. The title of the training is: **Indicator 6: Early Childhood Special Education LRE.** Stay tuned for times and dates for the Indicator 7 training.

### [Early Childhood Workshops.](#)

September 21 in Rapid City at the Ramkota. 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time  
October 5 virtual via Zoom. 1:00- 4:30 p.m Central Time

**Early Childhood On-Going Webinars.** Early Childhood will be providing bi-monthly webinars for early childhood special education staff members. Some webinars may be appropriate for the early childhood regular education staff. These webinars will be short, 30-45 minutes long covering a variety of topics specific to early childhood. Please stay tuned for dates and topics.



# Resources to Support Specialized Instruction and Specific Disability Areas

Each month we will feature different organizations and resources that will help you expand your toolkit to meet the needs of a variety of learners. **Disclaimer:** The information is being shared as a potential instructional or professional resource. Most are from state or nationally funded or recognized entities. Please evaluate individually to determine how it meets your needs.

- The Center for Disabilities' mission is to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. They carry out its diverse capacity-building efforts through community education, clinical services, interdisciplinary training, technical assistance, research, information dissemination, and policy/advocacy work. See the link below for where you can follow the Center for Disabilities <https://www.usd.edu/medicine/center-for-disabilities/social-media>
- The IRIS Center provides many resources with regards to accommodations and assistive technology. The site has modules, information briefs, video vignettes and much more to help teachers learn more about accommodations and assistive technology. <https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources/iris-resource-locator/>
- iTransition South Dakota is an online tool that helps teachers and middle/high school students draft a transition plan. The website walks the student through the process by asking a series of questions. <https://www.itransitionsd.org/instructions.html>

Administrative Rules of South  
Dakota  
Article 24:05  
(There were new rules adopted that went into effect July 2020, if you have a stand alone copy of the rules please make sure you update them. You can download the whole Article on the LRC site.)

South Dakota Special Education  
Programs

## Federal Resources

IDEA Part B Federal Regulations

US Department of Education

## This Month's SPED Tip(s)

### **Our district was identified as a Level 1 RDA District. What do I need to do?**

A: All districts must have staff complete at least 1 file review. Information about the Internal Review requirement can be found on Special Education Accountability Process website:

<https://doe.sd.gov/sped/accountability.aspx> and in the District RDA Manual. Districts were notified of their level which included the Risk Rubric. Please review the rubric report to examine any areas that district scored a 2 or higher in. If you have any questions, contact [Melissa.Flor@state.sd.us](mailto:Melissa.Flor@state.sd.us)



# Professional Development

To register, please click on the training title.

## [Fall IEP Workshops](#)

Basic, Advance and Early Childhood IEP workshops registration is now available. There will be two options: in-person locations or virtual access. When registering make sure you choose the appropriate date with coordinating option.

## [Transition IEP Workshops](#)

Registration is open for Transition IEP workshops provided by Transition Service Liaison Project (TSLP) representatives. There are 5 regional in-person locations and one virtual session. When registering makes sure to choose the appropriate date and location.

## [Early Childhood Workshops.](#)

September 21, Rapid City at the Ramkota  
October 5, virtual

## [Northern Plains Law Conference](#)

Offered virtually September 16th—17th, 2021.  
There will be a pre-conference on September 15th, 2021. Registration is open.

## [MTSS Tier 3 Training](#)

All individuals and school teams are welcome to attend this training to develop or refine their building level Tier 3 intervention plans. The training will focus on data-based individualization, a research-based process for individualizing and intensifying interventions and will include time and tools to develop or revise their Tier 3 intervention practices.

- Sept 27 (9am-4pm Central)
- Sept 28 (9am-4pm Central)
- Oct 5 (4pm-5pm Central)

## COMING SOON...

### **New Special Education Directors Webinar Series**

Special Education Programs in collaboration with the Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education will be hosting a series of interactive virtual webinars new (03 years) Special Education Directors in the fall of 2021.

The webinars will focus on general supervision requirements of special education and will include the following topics:

- Introduction and Integrated Monitoring Systems
- Child Count
- Dispute Resolution
- Fiscal Management
- State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR)

This series will assist you in identifying general supervision systems, provide an overview of federal and state rules and regulations, and give you an opportunity to ask questions.

**More information coming soon!**

## [SPED Resources](#)

Click on titles to go directly to webpage.

[SD Special Education Page](#)

[619 Preschool](#)

[State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report](#)

[Dispute Resolution](#)

[Special Education Listservs](#)

[Administrative Rules](#)

[SD Department of Education](#)

[Birth to Three](#)

[High School Transition](#)