



800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2235


T: 605.773.3134
F: 605.773.6139
www.doe.sd.gov

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Dear Special Education Director:

The South Dakota Office of Special Education Programs (SEP) is required by the U.S. Department of Education to survey parents of children receiving special education services. SEP must report the collected survey data in Indicator 8: Parent Involvement on the annual State Performance Plan (SPP).

Enclosed you will find your district's 2024-2025 SD Parent Surveys and prepaid mailing envelopes addressed to Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE). The number of surveys your district received was based on the December 2023 child count submitted to the Data Collection office. Your district code is printed on the bottom right-hand corner of the survey. **Please verify that your district code is correct.**

The survey is also available ONLINE in both English and Spanish. To access the Spanish version, respondents can click on the  symbol in the upper right corner:
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7702663/SDI8-2024-25>



Districts can also request paper surveys in the following languages: Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, Creole, German, Karen, Kuanyama, Nepali, Somali, Swahili, and Tigrinya. If you need more paper surveys or have any questions, please contact Stacy Holzbauer, Program Specialist, at stacy.holzbauer@state.sd.us or 605-295-3441.

SEP asks that your district please give an enclosed SD Parent Survey and prepaid mailing envelope, or the online link, to the parent of each student receiving special education services in your district. If a parent has more than one child receiving services, they need to fill out a survey for each of their children separately. Paper or online surveys may be completed at each IEP meeting, filled out at school conferences, or mailed/e-mailed to each parent any time during the 2024-2025 school year. The [2024-2025 District Flyer](#) provides a clear script to aid district staff in explaining the purpose of the survey to parents. Each district is responsible for their plan of when and how the surveys are distributed and completed. SEP will review the demographic representativeness of district respondents by race/ethnicity and disability. Districts should make every effort to encourage survey participation across all student demographic groups. Parents must complete the survey by **May 31, 2025**.
NEW THIS YEAR: SEP requires that districts have a survey response rate of at least 20%.

If your district has at least ten parents who complete a survey, you will receive a report with your district's survey results. We hope you find the information helpful in making program improvements. The district results will also be publicly reported on the DOE State Performance Plan website.

Thank you for your cooperation in improving partnerships with parents of students with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Division Director of Special Education and Early Learning