State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report

Overview

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) required each state to submit a State Performance Plan (SPP) to the U. S. Department of Education (USDOE) by December 3, 2005. The SPP will be used by the USDOE to evaluate the state’s efforts in implementing the requirements and purposes of Part B of the IDEA and to improve state implementation. The SPP includes the following: (1) baseline data that reflect the state’s efforts to implement Part B of the IDEA; (2) measurable and rigorous targets for the years 2005-2006 through 2012-2013 for each of the indicators established by the secretary in the priority areas under Section 616(a) of the IDEA (20 Indicators); and (3) activities the state will undertake to improve implementation of Part B.

The IDEA further requires that each state submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) to the USDOE that includes data on the state’s performance in relation to the measurable and rigorous targets established in the SPP. The first APR was due February 1, 2007.

The following outlines the criteria that will be used by the USDOE in its review of the information submitted by the state as well as the requirement for the USDOE to make an annual determination of whether the state meets the requirements of the IDEA or needs assistance or intervention in meeting the requirements.

First, the USDOE will review the State’s performance on all indicators. In addition to reviewing the state’s performance, the USDOE will consider the state’s ability to provide valid, reliable, and timely data for all SPP indicators. Following this review, Section 616 of the IDEA requires the USDOE annually to determine whether the state:

- Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B.
- Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B.
- Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B.
- Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B.

During the time that the USDOE is reviewing the state’s performance and making determinations, the State Department of Education (SDE) is required to review the performance of each local education agency (LEA) in the state, publicly report the state data by LEA (Indicators 1-14), and determine whether the LEA:

- Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B.
- Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B.
- Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B.
- Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B.

The SDE will be looking closely at whether each LEA demonstrates compliance and/or progress on all indicators, whether the LEA demonstrates timely correction of identified noncompliance and whether the LEA provides valid and reliable data.

Each LEA should review its data along with the SPP to understand the LEA’s performance as compared to the state targets. Based on findings, the LEA should analyze the data and develop a plan for improving educational results for students with disabilities.

The SPP is a “blueprint” for improvement. The SDE is committed to supporting LEA implementation of the IDEA with a focus on improving educational results and functional outcomes for students with disabilities.

For information contact Susan Williamson at swilliamson@alsde.edu