## JANUARY 2020 TO DO LIST DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION - PART B COMPLIANCE

- 1. **GRADUATE FOLLOW-UP**: Be sure to work with your high school staff to ensure the accurate reporting of the educational/vocational outcomes for your LEA's graduates with IEPs during the February MOSIS reporting cycle. Contact the Special Education Data section at 573-751-7848 if you have any questions or need assistance.
- 2. Tiered Monitoring Year 2 All documentation of individual correction of noncompliance (the ICAPs) for identified students should be completed and submitted. Year 2 LEAs who had noncompliance identified through their file review should be implementing their approved Plans for Correction and preparing their SAMPLES OF CORRECTION to submit by April 1, 2020. Please contact your Compliance Supervisor or your RPDC Compliance Consultant for assistance.
- 3. Tiered Monitoring Year 3 schools should be providing professional development to maintain compliance and improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Also, please be sure to review procedures and practices within your LEA to increase efficiency and effectiveness in order to support continued compliance. The next self-assessment is just around the corner (next school year.)
- 4. Tiered Monitoring Year 1 schools conducting a self-assessment this year can access the Self-Assessment presentation and handouts on the Compliance webpage at <a href="https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/tiered-monitoring-imacs-fags">https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/tiered-monitoring-imacs-fags</a>. The window to conduct the self-assessment file reviews and enter the data into IMACS closes on January 31, 2020. Plan ahead to complete the required student file reviews sections. Please call 573-751-0699 if you have questions.
- 5. Tiered Monitoring Year 1 schools need to be aware of the **Cohort 3 Parent Special Education Survey** for parents and guardians regarding the special education services that their children receive. DESE has asked the Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA) at the University of Missouri to conduct the survey. You should have received an email from Wayne Mayfield, Ph.D., during the week of January 13<sup>th</sup> about how to access the surveys online as well as provide information about how to distribute the survey. The surveys are due March 31, 2020.
- 6. Some LEAs may have students with IEPs who graduate at the end of the first semester. Do not forget their **SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE (SOP).** Graduation from secondary school with a regular diploma requires that the student be provided with a summary of the student's academic achievement and functional performance as well as include recommendations on how to assist the student in meeting his or her post-secondary goals. The SOP cannot be provided more than 60 days prior to graduation or more than 30 days after graduating with a regular diploma.
- 7. Following the holiday break is an excellent time to collect data documenting regression/recoupment to assist IEP Teams to determine if **EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR** (ESY) is required for each student. Remember that ESY is not the same as summer school all students can

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receive a benefit from summer school; ESY is required to be provided in order for certain students with disabilities to receive FAPE. ESY decisions should be based on your school district policy; however, all school board policies must follow these compliance requirements:

- ESY must be considered, for all students with disabilities, by the IEP team;
- If ESY eligibility is predicated on regression/recoupment criteria, documented and/or predicted regression/recoupment must be considered;
- Whether a student is to receive ESY is an IEP team decision; and
- The length, nature, and type of ESY services must be determined on an individual basis by the IEP team.
- If the decision is to determine at a later date, be sure that a data-driven decision is actually made prior to the end of the regular school year.
- 8. DESE has provided each LEA in Missouri with a complimentary subscription to LRP's **Special Ed Connection**. Special Ed Connections is an online resource that provides instant access to Special Education topics such as federal regulations or case law as well as guidance documents to assist districts with IDEA compliance. There is a Smart Start guidance document to assist districts in understanding **Related Services**. SmartStart: Related Services explores the range of supportive services that can be provided to children under IDEA to assist them in benefitting from special education. If you need assistance accessing your Special Ed Connections account please contact Cori Reines at LRP either via email creines@lrp.comor by phone 800-515-4577, ext. 6439.
- 9. DESE's Special Education <u>General Guidance</u> page lists many valuable resources including all of the previous Myth of the Months and To Do lists. Please bookmark this page because we are also working on updating some of the FAQs and guidance documents in the coming months.
- 10. Districts that were notified in early November that they would need to complete the **MAP-A**Justifications form need to do so by January 31<sup>st</sup>.