



Friday News Blast



4-10-2020

Please see our website at www.education.ne.gov/sped for all the updated guidance and information related to special education and early intervention during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continuously be updating our page with the most recent guidance and adding resources.

Job Postings for Office of Special Education – Application deadline **April 24**

[Assistant Administrator, Office of Special Education and Director of IDEA Part B - School](#)

[Early Childhood Special Education Specialist](#)

PEaK Project Package

The PEaK Project Package is now available and can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/PEAK20-21>. As in the past, the link allows for view access to the package. In order to complete the application, please save a copy locally to fill in the required information. Applications are due electronically by **May 15, 2020**. If you have any questions about programming, please contact Kelly Wojcik at kelly.wojcik@nebraska.gov. Questions about budgeting and finance will be answered by Greg Prochazka at greg.prochazka@nebrabrask.gov

Annual PRT Meeting

Please see the *attached* memo regarding the required, annual PRT meeting. As a reminder, it will be critical for all PRTs to discuss Part C (EDN) continuous year services with their districts due to the current COVID-19 crisis. The Governor has issued an executive order which allows for Nebraska Open Meetings to be held via technology until May 31, 2020. This should help alleviate some the constraints with the Open Meetings Law.

Part C/EDN COVID-19 Resources

Please find COVID-19 Resources specific to Part C/EDN at the following link: <http://edn.ne.gov/cms/edn-covid-19-resources>. Included in these resources are strategies/guidance related to implementing the Routines-Based Early Intervention strategies when home visits have been suspended.

2020-21 PRT Grants – These are open in GMS. Grants are due **August 1**.

TS Gold

Please take note of the *Revised Memo dated 4/10/20* regarding TS Gold Data collection requirements in light of COVID-19. The revisions to this memo are in red text and clarify that the May 31st checkpoint is **only required for children who are exiting** early intervention or special education services. Additionally, NDE is suspending the requirement of documentation for the spring checkpoint period. For detailed information, please see *attached* memo.

IDEA MOE for Compliance Standard – OPEN: April 1 – DUE DATE: May 15

IDEA Part B Special Education Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Application for Compliance Standard for school year 2018-2019 opened on April 1. The report may be accessed within the NDE Portal under the Data Collection tab.

School district receipt of IDEA dollars is contingent upon maintaining fiscal effort for Special Education. Districts must expend a greater or equal amount of local or local/state funds from a previous year highest level to meet the MOE requirement. Final calculations based on actual special education school district expenditures/receipts/data obtained from the 2018-2019 AFR, GMS and ADVISER are available and have been compared to the highest levels of fiscal effort. As a result, calculations for meeting the IDEA MOE Compliance Standard may have resulted in a MOE excess or shortage that requires school district review for determination of adjustments or credits that could modify the MOE level.

Contact: Greg Prochazka at 402-471-4314 or greg.prochazka@nebraska.gov

“It may be that when we no longer know what to do we have come to our real work, and that when we no longer know which way to go we have come to our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.” Wendell Berry

Amy Rhone - Administrator