



Friday News Blast



November 13, 2020

Please see our SPED website at www.education.ne.gov/sped as well 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.

Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) / TIP Feedback

As a reminder, TIPs were due November 1. We currently have about 200 that have been submitted. An extension was granted until November 16 to those who had extenuating circumstances. If you have not already submitted, please do so by **November 16**.

TIP Feedback

The Office of Special Education is requesting feedback on the screen casts and training that were provided to assist in the development of the TIP. Please respond to the [TIP Feedback Survey](#) by Friday, November 20. Feedback will be used to determine what additional supports are needed.

SPED Proportionate Share Worksheet for Non-Public Schools – 2021-2022 – Open November 2, 2020 - December 16, 2020

All school districts (including districts that do NOT have approved/accredited non-public schools or exempt home schools located within the district's jurisdiction) are required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to complete and submit the 2021-2022 IDEA Proportionate Share application. This collection is found under the "Data Collection" tab in the portal. This collection is based on the October 1, 2020 child count of eligible children with disabilities (ages 3-21) and determines the amount of IDEA funds that must be expended for eligible parentally placed children with disabilities in an accredited/approved nonpublic school and/or an exempt home school within the school district boundaries. Contact: Greg Prochazka (402) 471-4314 or greg.prochazka@nebraska.gov

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Tracking Tool 2020-2021 is Now Available

The NDE Office of Special Education has created a Microsoft Excel worksheet "MOE Tracking Tool (2020-2021)", "MOE Worksheet Instructions (2020-2021)", and "MOE Targets (2020-2021)" to assist districts in planning, budgeting, and tracking special education expenditures and reimbursements for the 2020-2021 year. Calculations generated from the tool assist in increasing the probability districts will meet the MOE compliance standard. The tool permits districts to report actual and projected special education Annual Finance Report (AFR) expenditures/receipts on a monthly or year-to-date basis. MOE Targets worksheet is available to access your district's most current MOE levels to meet compliance in 2020-2021. Information is located within the Finance-SPED section of the NDE Special Education home page: <https://www.education.ne.gov/sped/finance/>

If you have questions contact Greg Prochazka (402-471-4314) (greg.prochazka@nebraska.gov)

2020-2021 GMS IDEA Consolidated Application Now Available for Amending in Special Education Staff Information.

Appropriate NDE Staff Reporting System identification ("SPI Code" and "Position Assignment") is required for budgeting in the GMS IDEA Consolidation Application and for reimbursement eligibility. NDE Staff Reporting System SPI codes regarding GMS Staff Retrieval and SPED Federal and State Reimbursement Verified Staff information will only display with the appropriate SPED SPI codes from NDE Staff Reporting System as identified.

- "I" SPED School Age Federal-IDEA funds and/or • "7" SPED Early Childhood Federal-IDEA/Local funds
- "S" SPED School Age-State/Local funds

Deadline to submit Staff Reporting Data for the current school year is June 15, audit window – June 30. When using federal funds, appropriate Time and Effort documentation must also support the NDE Staff Reporting System SPI codes “1” (IDEA-federal) and “7” (federal/local).

If you have questions contact Suzie Pierce (402-471-4333) (suzie.pierce@nebraska.gov) or Greg Prochazka (402-471-4314) (greg.prochazka@nebraska.gov)

GOLD/Results Matter Announcements & Upcoming Virtual GOLD Trainings

Please notify GOLD administrators to ensure that children receiving early intervention services are exited on their 3rd birthday. The [Part C GOLD Exit Checklist](#) is attached to assist in that process.

As a reminder, all children birth through kindergarten eligible age, served by a public school district or ESU are required to have an NDE Student ID/ADVISER ID. This identification number must be reported on the child’s Teaching Strategies GOLD profile. The GOLD administrators are responsible for ensuring that these identification numbers are within each child’s profile. Please refer to the [Results Matter TA document](#) for further clarification on ADVISER ID’s

Teachers/practitioners who have used GOLD for one year must complete Interrater Reliability (IRR) Certification by **December 31st** of their second year of using GOLD and every three years following. GOLD administrators can check all staff’s IRR certificate in the Report tab under Interrater Reliability. Please see question #43/44 for further information on IRR in the [Results Matter TA Document](#).

February 2-3, 2021

- **GOLD: Key to Responsive Planning / Home Visitors (Day 2: Break out session)**

Register at <https://necprs.ne.gov/erecords/Training/118347>

February 4-5, 2021

- **GOLD: Using your observations to individualize instruction**

Register at <https://necprs.ne.gov/erecords/Training/118349>

OR

- **GOLD: Administrative Support**

Register at <https://necprs.ne.gov/erecords/Training/118363>

Seeking Proposals Now for the 2021 Virtual Transition Conference – Dream It!, Plan It!, Do It!

The Nebraska Department of Education is seeking proposals for sessions for the virtual 2021 conference. Please submit your offer to present by 5:00 pm on November 16, 2020. Lead presenters will be notified regarding the status of their submission by December 1, 2020.

Priority will be given to those proposals that disseminate evidence-based practices, actively engage participants, and present topics likely to improve Post-Secondary Outcomes for students with disabilities.

The virtual sessions will be presented on the days of the conference and recorded to be available for later viewing.

Please submit through the following link: <https://forms.gle/kEWZtGiB1XnXtojT6>



Amy Rhone

Administrator

301 Centennial Mall South

Lincoln, NE 68509

P: (402) 471-4323

E: amy.rhone@nebraska.gov

