Program Improvement Updates

Special Education Monitoring Update

Through the Washington Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM), OSPI's special education division engages in <u>universal and targeted monitoring activities</u> with every Local Education Agency (LEA), every year. In addition, several fiscal and program risk factors are utilized to select LEAs to participate in an intensive Systems Analysis Review. LEAs identified with high risk on these factors may be selected to participate in a fiscal-only, program-only, or combination fiscal/program Systems Analysis review during the 2024–25 school year. OSPI plans to notify districts who have been selected for a 2024–25 Systems Analysis Review by the beginning of September. The September 2024 Special Education Monthly Update will include the roster of selected districts.

The types of Systems Analysis Reviews to be conducted this year include:

Systems Analysis Fiscal Desk Reviews and On-site Visits will focus on the LEA's ability to implement fiscal procedures that ensure grant funds are used for authorized purposes in compliance with laws and regulations; have internal controls that ensure reliable financial reporting and accountability; and evaluate best practices.

Systems Analysis Program Desk Reviews and On-site Visits will continue to focus on the provision of special education services, including recovery services; educational benefit and student outcomes; collection and reporting of IEP progress data; and the use of data for continuous improvement.

Note: Systems Analysis Reviews will continue to be aligned and coordinated with Program Review and Support (PRS) reviews whenever feasible and in collaboration with LEA leadership.

Exemplar On-site Visits will focus on one or more areas in which the LEA's data show exemplary improvement or performance. Exemplar reviews in 2024–25 will focus on the priority areas of Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and Secondary Transition.

Focused/Follow-up Desk Reviews and On-site Visits will focus on one or more areas of potential concern noted in the LEA's data or identified through a prior WISM review.

If you have questions about the WISM process, please contact our WISM team.

Disproportionality and Significant Disproportionality Notifications

In early September, notifications will be sent via email to local education agencies (LEAs) identified as having: (a) disproportionate representation with regard to the identification of students with disabilities by race/ethnicity; (b) a significant discrepancy with regard to out-of-



school suspensions of more than 10 days for students with disabilities by race/ethnicity; and (c) significant disproportionality with regard to the identification, placement, or discipline of students with disabilities by race/ethnicity.

All LEAs identified as having disproportionality, a significant discrepancy, or significant disproportionality are required to complete the 2024–25 Disproportionality Workbook, which will be attached to the notification email and is **due no later than May 1, 2025**. In addition, LEAs designated as having significant disproportionality are required to complete and submit a plan for using 15% of their federal IDEA funds to implement Comprehensive, Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS).

The notification email will also include links to OSPI office hours that will be held in September specifically to assist LEAs with any questions regarding their designation, disproportionality data, and calculations, completing the disproportionality workbook, and related topics. LEAs can also attend the Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program Office Hours, which take place every Wednesday beginning in September (for more information, see the bottom of this page).

If you have any questions about disproportionality, or significant disproportionality designations or notifications, please <u>contact WISM</u>.

IDEA Correction of Non-Compliance for 2023–24

The 2024–25 IDEA Correction of Non-Compliance application (Form Package 442) will be available in mid-September through the Education Grants Management System (EGMS). LEAs with identified noncompliance will also be notified via email.

Noncompliance identified through monitoring activities, LEA data submissions, due process decisions, and indicator performance during 2023–24 will be identified in this application and is required to be corrected by the local education agency (LEA) as soon as possible, but no later than March 3, 2025 (see WAC 392-172A-07010(3)). If you have any questions about Form Package 442/642, please contact our <u>WISM team</u>.

OSPI Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program Office Hours

Please join us if you have questions or would like to talk about any topics related to Program Improvement, including, but not limited to:

- Correction of non-compliance (Form Package 442)
- Disproportionality and significant disproportionality
- Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) and Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS)
- WISM Systems Analysis reviews (including onsite visits, desk reviews, and selfassessments)
- Annual determinations

Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program office hours will be held via Zoom at 1–1:30 pm every Wednesday beginning in September. During these office hours, participants can chat about current issues and ask questions. Breakout rooms will be available as needed for discussions on specific topics. Zoom link to join the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding these office hours, please contact <u>the WISM team</u> or <u>the special education data team</u>.