Program Improvement Updates

Special Education Monitoring Update

Through the Washington Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM), OSPI's special education division engages in a number of <u>monitoring activities</u> with every Local Education Agency (LEA), every year. Additional monitoring activities, Systems Analysis Reviews, take place only with selected LEAs.

Multiple fiscal and program risk factors are utilized when determining which LEAs will participate in a WISM Systems Analysis review. LEAs identified with high risk on these factors may be selected to participate with OSPI in a fiscal-only, program-only, or combination fiscal/program Systems Analysis review during the 2024–25 school year. LEAs selected to participate in one of these additional review activities in the 2024–25 school year will be notified by the first week of September and the roster will be posted to <u>OSPI's website</u> (scroll down to Systems Analysis).

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.

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 2023–24 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.

<u>Note</u>: Reviews will continue to be aligned and coordinated with Program Review and Support (formerly CPR) whenever feasible and in collaboration with LEA leadership.

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



Disproportionality and Significant Disproportionality Notifications

The week of September 9th, 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/or
- (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. 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 Disproportionality Workbook and draft CCEIS plan/budget (if applicable) are **due no later than May 1, 2025**.

OSPI's Program Improvement Team will be holding Disproportionality Office Hours in September. Feel free to join us during one or both of the scheduled times below if you have questions about the disproportionality requirements, the district's data, or the disproportionality workbook:

- Thursday, September 19th from noon to 1:00 pm (click to register)
- Thursday, September 26th from noon to 1:00 pm (click to register)

You can also join us for the Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program Office Hours, held every Wednesday from 1–1:30 pm. See the last item below for more information.

If you have questions, you can also contact the WISM team

Identification and Correction of Non-Compliance for 2024–25

The 2024–25 IDEA Correction of Non-Compliance application (Form Package 442) will be available later this month **through the Education Grants Management System (EGMS).** Non-compliance 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 1, 2025** (see WAC <u>392-172A-07010</u>(3)).

Feel free to join the Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program Office Hours, held every Wednesday from 1–1:30 pm if you have any questions about the correction of non-compliance process. See the last item below for more information.

If you have questions, you can also contact the WISM team.

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 are held via Zoom at 1–1:30 pm every Wednesday. 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 the Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program office hours, please contact the <u>WISM team</u> or the <u>Special Education Data Team</u>.