

To: Superintendent Addressed

From: Rodney Watson, PhD

Date: February 4, 2025

Re: Texas Education Agency (TEA) Statewide Child Find and Early to Exit IEP

Supports Grant

Region 4 Education Service Center is the statewide lead for TEA's statewide Child Find and Early to Exit IEP Supports grant. Below is an overview of tools, supports, and highlighted resources that are available to districts and charters at **zero cost**.

New Online Resource: The <u>Developmental Delay Quick Guide and Frequently Asked Questions | Texas SPED Support</u> outlines the criteria for identifying and determining eligibility for special education and related services for children with a developmental delay (DD). The frequently asked questions (FAQs) provide recommendations and best practices for identifying DD. The quick guide is a resource for teachers, special education personnel, administrators, and other professionals.

Online Resource: The <u>Guidance for the Comprehensive Evaluation of Specific Learning Disabilities | Texas SPED Support</u> serves as a resource for local education agencies (LEAs) and Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) as they work collaboratively to evaluate students suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability (SLD), including dyslexia and dysgraphia. This resource is best used in conjunction with the <u>TEA</u> Technical Assistance Guide: Child Find & Evaluation.

Online Resource: The <u>SPPI 14 Post-School Outcomes Survey | Texas SPED Support</u> collection includes resources related to the State Performance Plan Indicator (SPPI) 14 survey.

Online Resources: The <u>Early Childhood Transition Resources | Texas SPED</u> provide an outline of the early transition activities, timelines, and recommended practices to facilitate a child's transition from Part C (Early Childhood Intervention) to Part B (Early Childhood Special Education) and support educators and other school professionals in Texas with transitions from early childhood to elementary.

Statewide Conference: Aligned! 2025: From Child Find to IEP Implementation | Texas SPED Support Registration opens on February 7, 2025 for this \$0 cost, synchronous and asynchronous online statewide conference on July 30-31, 2025, that provides expertise, best practices, and networking support to assist public school districts and charter schools.

Online TEA-Developed Resource: <u>Technical Assistance</u>: <u>Child Find and Evaluation | Texas SPED Support</u> provides information to assist LEAs in meeting their obligations under state and federal laws and regulations regarding the responsibility to identify, locate, and evaluate all children suspected of having a disability and who are in need of special education and related services, commonly referred to as the Child Find obligation.

Online TEA-Developed Resource: <u>Technical Assistance: Individualized Education</u>

<u>Program Development | Texas SPED Support</u> provides helpful, general information for LEAs to develop an IEP that is individualized and based on the unique needs of the child and is designed to enable him or her to work towards grade-level content standards and achieve challenging goals.

Online Courses:

Child Find Duty-Everyone's Responsibility | Texas SPED Support

This **\$0 cost self-paced, online course** provides participants with a fundamental understanding of the definition and purpose of child find and the requirements for LEAs.

<u>Standards-Based Individualized Education Program (IEP) Process Training | Texas</u> SPED Support

This **\$0 cost self-paced**, **online course** provides participants with information on the SB IEP process for gathering student data, including the full and individual evaluation (FIE), to write the student's present levels of academic achievement and functional performance (PLAAFP) statement, to draft measurable annual goals with short-term objectives/benchmarks, if appropriate, and to create a data collection system for monitoring progress of the annual goals.

For additional questions or information regarding the above online courses or hyperlinked documents, please contact your Region 4 Special Education Solutions Director and leads: Dr. Thelissa Edwards, Special Education Director, thelissa.edwards@esc4.net, 713.744.4418; Dr. Linda De Zell Hall, Special Education Coordinator, lhall@esc4.net, 713.744.6399; and Kara Zwolinski, Special Education Child Find and Early to Exit IEP Supports Grant Project Manager, kara.zwolinski@esc4.net, 713.744.6562.