

What do you still need to know?

September 2016

Miscellaneous

- ✓ Post **“Parking Lot”** at the beginning of the meeting so questions can be gathered throughout SELDA - DONE
- ✓ Want more **Technology Tips** – WILL DO
- ✓ **GO-IEP** –Want more information- December Meeting
- ✓ **Transition** options for students who have earned credits but are not ready to transition. (Innovative models)

Related services - Goals in IEP? (Do you write a goal or support a goal?)

Implementation Manual - Chapter 18 - Page 214 - OT and PT Frequently Asked Questions
School-based OT and PT are related services as defined under § 300.34 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that are provided to students who meet criteria for special education services under Special Education Rule 13 160-4-7-.05, “Eligibility Determination and Categories of Eligibility.” The IEP team writes students’ annual goals. The OT and PT provide support for the IEP teams to assist the student in achieving the IEP goals and objectives. OTs and PTs do not write goals in isolation. Therapy should occur in the educational environment or setting as opposed to a pull-out service. These environments include, but are not limited to, the classroom, cafeteria, gymnasium, playground, restrooms, hallways, and bus, as well as, community locations where educational instruction takes place.

Recruiting –SLPs, Psychs, OT/PT, Teachers and O&M

Recruitment for Speech Language Pathologists

Implementation Manual - Chapter 15 - Recruitment and Retention of Speech-Language Pathologist.

Districts can advertise on National Websites such as ASHA.org and Advance for Speech-Language Pathologists; teachga.org; and GSHA.org. Districts can also contact Colleges and University’s with Communication Disorders Programs to attract new graduates. There are five approved programs in Georgia. They are Armstrong State University, Georgia State University, University of Georgia, University of West Georgia and Valdosta State University.

How are speech caseloads determined? Students served vs students with primary disabilities.

Speech caseloads are determined by the total number of students served. The caseload maximum for students served is 55.

Guidelines for online speech therapy

The guidelines for Teletherapy can be found in the Implementation manual in Chapter 15: Recruitment and Retention of Speech-Language Pathologists. Current guidance includes: the district has the ultimate responsibility for FAPE; students who receive teletherapy for Speech services must have at least one hour per month of direct (face-to-face) services from a certified SLP in addition to the teleservice segments; the use of telepractice does not have an impact on maximum caseload- all students must be included on the caseload of an SLP who will serve the students once per month; the district must provide a trained communication paraprofessional to supervise and facilitate all telepractice sessions and the use of telepractice requires prior GaDOE approval.

How are speech students with additional needs served and by whom?

Students with Speech and Language Impairments that require additional support are served based on their needs as determined by the IEP team. A continuum of placements must be considered by the team as stated in the LRE rules seen here:

- 1. General education classroom with age-appropriate non-disabled peers, if required by the IEP:
 - (i) Additional supportive services. The child remains in regular classroom with supplementary aids and services provided to the teacher and/or child to implement the IEP.
 - The services provided may be from personnel such as paraprofessionals, interpreters, or others.
 - (ii) Direct services. The child remains in the regular classroom with direct services from special education personnel on a consultative, collaborative, or co-teaching basis.
- 2. Instruction outside the general classroom for individuals or small groups.
- 3. Separate day school or program.

O&M options/ training opportunities in Georgia

There are no programs in GA for training O&M. The closest O&M training programs are: Florida in Gainesville, FL; North Carolina Central in Durham; South Carolina State in Orangeburg, and Un. of Arkansas. All of the others are out west or in the north. North Carolina Central University is the only one that has ever worked with GA on a cohort with some distance learning. They still may do some distance learning. **Attached is a list of VI training programs** that also show if they include O&M.

To recruit O&M

Contacting these universities directly to recruit is a time honored way. There is a website kept by GA O&Mers themselves where you can get names of O&M specialists who are willing to contract: Orientation and Mobility of Georgia: <http://oandmga.wix.com/omg#!>

Beyond that, you have to turn to agencies to employ them. Vision Rehab Services is in the metro area: <http://www.vrsga.org/>

Allied Instructional Services works throughout Georgia: <http://www.alliedinstructional.com/>

If small districts in an area can come together in a RESA area and establish a shared services system through RESA for these low incidence areas, that is usually the best way. There are several RESAs in the state that do that: Pioneer, NE GA RESA, Griffin RESA, Savannah River Area RESA are some that do.

Policies and Procedures Rubric

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Documents/Compliance%20Rubric.pdf>

Incarcerated Students

-What are best practices for Child Find obligations?

-Process for making sure we are in compliance with incarcerated youth.

-When students are incarcerated outside your district – Who is responsible?

- Details can be found in state rules under FAPE and IEP.
- This is still an unsettled area. Beyond what is in the IDEA regulations, there is a **Dear Colleague letter on incarcerated students that is attached**. This letter explains the responsibility of the SEA and the LEAs with regard to this population of students. Also, OSEP's focus right now is on incarcerated students.

Service animal policy

Service animal policies are under ADA and not IDEA and we have no jurisdiction over the ADA (OCR does).

The link to the federal regulations addressing service animals is http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?rgn=div5&node=28:1.0.1.1.36#_top. This is 28 CFR Part 35 and the applicable sections are 28 CFR 35.104 which defines service animal and 28 CFR 35.136 which gives more information about service animal requirements.

If you want to provide a shorter web link, you can use www.ecfr.gov then scroll down to **Title 28 Judicial Administration**, and click Go. Then click on **parts 0-42**, and click on **35** or **35.101 to 35.191-35.999**, which is **NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**. Then click on **35.104** and **35.136**.

Budget and Data questions to be addressed during the October Presentations:

Amber McCollum - Budget

- IDEA Flowthrough funds –funding codes and categories
- Budget submission
- Funding Codes/Sources
- How do medium to large systems organize proportionate share funds and data? Keeping the data up to data, securing numbers for the calculation.
- MOE guidance and failure requirements
- Proportionate share –need more details
- When are budget amendments required or needed?
- Where are the account codes listed? – Where to find?
- Budget –What is excess cost?

Carol Seay - Data

- FTE –contracted/shared services not on count day
- Data – How to coordinate data collection –by period, FTE1, Federal Child Count, FTE3 and SR?
- Student Record
- CPI – coding
- Electronic student records –What are policies and pitfalls?