Preschool Updates

Director’s Webinar
October 11, 2022
Preschool Consortia

• Currently have 15 Preschool Consortia meeting

• Uniquely designed by GLRS Directors and Consortia Leads to meet the needs of each area

• Some guidance from DOE

• Please encourage participation by your Preschool Staff
Least Restrictive Environment (Indicator 6)

- The LRE requirements of IDEA are applicable to all children with disabilities who are served under part B of the IDEA including preschool children with disabilities aged 3-5.
- LEAs must make available a full continuum of placements options.
- In selecting the LRE, IEP teams must also consider potential harmful effects on the child or on the QUALITY of services the child needs.
Reported Child Outcomes (Indicator 7)

States report data to Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in the US Department of Education annually on 3 child outcomes for both Part C and Part B:

- Social Relationships
- Use of knowledge and skills
- Taking Action to meet needs
Child Outcome Summary (COS) Modules

• Modules are in Georgia Learns SLDS

• Participation can be monitored

Georgia Learns
Outcomes Data Collection Recommendations

- All staff should complete the Child Outcome Summary Modules (available in Ga Learns)
- Leaders should utilize the Child Outcomes Summary Process training on the Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) website
- Develop local processes for data collection and reporting
Timely Transition (Indicator 12)

Be sure that your district has procedures in place to monitor submission of Preschool Timelines.

Part B
- Attend Part C Transition Conference
- Conduct Part B eligibility evaluation
- Develop and Implement IEP prior to child's 3rd birthday

Part C
- Notify LEA
- Develop Transition Plan
- Coordinate Transition Conference
- Provide necessary documentation to LEA to assist in the Part B referral process
Definition of a Private School

Under IDEA, a school is a private school *IF* it meets the following requirements:

1. Includes grade K or higher

2. Has a non-profit status

*ONLY preschool students who attend private schools that meet these two requirements can access a Service Plan (SP) through Proportionate Share Funding.*
Things to Consider

**Child Find**

- Ask the question - **Who** is responsible for Child Find?

**Always the LEA of Residence** with one exception

**Exception** - the child attends a school in another district that meets the definition of a **private school**. In this case, the LEA where the school is located must conduct Child Find activities.
Things to Consider

**Child Find**

A parent of a child in a private school may request evaluations from both the LEA of residence and the LEA where the school is located, but this is discouraged.

OSEP states, “[s]ubjecting a child to repeated testing by separate LEAs in close proximity of time may not be the most effective or desirable way to ensure that the evaluations are meaningful measures of whether a child has a disability, or of obtaining an appropriate assessment of the child’s educational needs.”
# After Eligibility-Parent Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accept FAPE</th>
<th>Reject FAPE</th>
<th>*Reject FAPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept <em>FAPE and enroll the student in the LEA of residence, IEP is developed and services are provided</em></td>
<td>Reject <em>FAPE, no services</em></td>
<td>*Reject <em>FAPE and agree to a Service Plan (SP) offered by the LEA where the private school is located</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This option only applies if the student attends a school that meets the definition of a private school.*
“Begin with the End in Mind”

Stephen Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*
DECAL Approved Free Online Training

• Preschool special education teachers can take online training courses that are approved by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. There are several courses designed for preschool teachers. To review the program and sign up visit the following link:

• Welcome to the Cox Campus | Read Right from the Start
National Resources

• Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA) = http://ectacenter.org/decrp/

• Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC) = https://www.dec-sped.org/

• National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) = https://www.naeyc.org/

• National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI) = https://challengingbehavior.cbcse.usf.edu/
Contact Information

Barbara Ross
Program Specialist
Preschool/619 Coordinator
Georgia Department of Education

Barbara.ross@doe.k12.ga.us