

JANUARY 31, 2025

Weekly Memo

Action Items

Certified Roll Forward Amendments

An email from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Program Accountability, Assessment & Data Systems fiscal team, was sent to exceptional student education directors to inform local educational agencies that FDOE's Comptroller's Office has issued the roll forward certification letters for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, Section 611 (ages 3-21) and Section 619 (ages 3-5) Entitlement Projects. Refer to the email for instructions on completing the amendments. Amendments should be submitted on or before **April 30, 2025**. For questions, email IDEAGrant@fldoe.org.

District Certification for 2023-24 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR), Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the <u>District Certification for 2023-24 SESIR</u>, <u>Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and</u> <u>Harassment</u>, to be completed and signed by **February 21, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

Professional Learning

2025 Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support (BSIS) Professional Learning Events

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the <u>2025 Professional Learning Events</u> offered by BSIS in collaboration with BEESS. For more information and registration instructions, follow the directives in the memo.

Key Requirements by Timeline for Diploma Deferral

The option to defer receipt of a standard diploma must be discussed in the individual educational plan beginning at age 14 and revisited annually thereafter. Additionally, if a student intends to defer, the parents (or the adult student, if rights have transferred) must sign a written statement of intent to defer no later than one year before the student meets graduation requirements. A final decision on deferral must be made by May 15 of the year the student meets graduation requirements.

Restraint Data for December 2024 is Now Available

December 2024 data for restraint incidents submitted to the Involuntary Examination, Restraint, and Seclusion (known as IERS) web application is now available. The data have been posted to the Program Accountability, Assessments & Data Systems web page and can be located by scrolling down to the section titled "SWD Restraint Data – SY 2024-25," and selecting the appropriate month. Pursuant to section 1003.573(8), Florida Statutes, "The department shall maintain aggregate data of incidents of restraint and disaggregate the data for analysis by county, school, student exceptionality, and other variables, including the type and method of restraint used. This information shall be updated monthly, deidentified, and made available to the public through the department's website."

Tip of the Week

Adjust Reinforcers When Using Behavior Interventions

Reinforcers must be considered individually. Never assume that reinforcers will be the same for all students. For example, free time for computer use for educational games may be appropriate for one student but may not be for another student who would rather have the time to read a book. (Special Ed Connection[®])

Patricia Bodiford Senior Educational Program Director

