

## Questions from *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Webinar 04/15/2008 and 04/17/2008

### **What is the process for collecting data from local programs regarding indicators that will be reported to the public?**

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires the use of the December 1, 2006 618 data and data sources used for the February 2008 Annual Performance Report to publicly report on the performance of local programs.

### **Will the PowerPoint be posted?**

The PowerPoint will be posted on the *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Training and Technical Assistance (EOTTA) website Thursday afternoon at <http://eotta.ccesa.org>. It will also be posted at [www.michigan.gov/earlyon](http://www.michigan.gov/earlyon).

### **What year of data will you be looking at for the 2008 determination process?**

Federal Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007) data; December 1, 2007 record reviews performed summer of 2007; and any other data collected up until June 30, 2008. The goal is to use the most recent data available to make determinations.

### **Where is this information reported?**

The information at a minimum must be on the Michigan Department of Education's website, [www.michigan.gov/earlyon](http://www.michigan.gov/earlyon).

### **Will we have a chance to either preview the report for public reporting or at least receive a copy of the report before it is released to the media?**

Yes. It is a state law that the ISDs and school districts be notified of public reporting before it is released to the media.

### **What exactly is maintenance of effort?**

We are verifying to OSEP that we do not and are not using federal dollars to supplant state and local funds.

### **Will the 3-5 groups be converting to online reporting?**

There is a pilot that is starting for this age group. The ultimate goal is for all Early Childhood Outcome data to be in MiCIS.

### **Does the change to COSF entry/exit happen immediately or do we close out this year doing annual updates?**

MDE has to contact Wayne State to make some changes to the program. The change to optional collection of child outcome data will take effect May 1, 2008.

### **What will happen with the information and reporting on natural environments?**

If a Service Area has been cited through focused monitoring for a natural environments violation, that issue must be in compliance prior to the closing out of the improvement planning and reporting process.

**Can we stop doing the annual?**

Yes.

**If the overall budget for *Early On* Michigan has decreased by \$409,584.00, could we assure the cuts to each ISD will be distributed based on local EETRK data/formula or will it be evenly distributed?**

The decrease in *Early On* funds will be distributed based on the traditional formula, which includes the base of \$50,000, plus the estimated need (based on 2.2% of period births), plus the estimated performance (the average number of IFSPs for the previous June 1 and December 1 counts times the per capita figure amount).

**Service Provider Self Review (SPSR) as an “internal” function? What does that mean? Service areas would do what?**

Details have not been completely worked out. The SPSR will become an activity performed at the local level for program improvement and not used for compliance or monitoring.

**Relating to child record review, is there room to document extenuating circumstances that inform less than 100 percent compliance? Transition, timely services, and 45 days?**

There is a place that you will be allowed to document this information in reference to the above topics.

**For planning purposes, can you give us an idea as to when the new definitions for developmental delay and established conditions eligibility will be implemented?**

Hopefully this summer or by the new fiscal year this information will be available. This has to be reviewed and approved by OSEP prior to implementation.

**What is considered exceptional family circumstances?**

Anything relating to the family and any extreme circumstance the family may experience such as hospitalization of the child, natural disasters, or school closing. Specifically, anything that is family-driven. This is further defined in *Early On* Reference Bulletin No. 4, “Timely Services,” posted to [www.michigan.gov/earlyon](http://www.michigan.gov/earlyon) and <http://eotta.ccrea.org>. Any systemic provider issues are not considered acceptable.

**With regards to the budget allocations, are we in some way lobbying for increases in funding as a result of the federal government requiring more of the Part C system (i.e. CAPTA, etc.)?**

The Infant and Toddler Coordinators’ Association is always lobbying for additional funds. In the past, the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) score for IDEA birth to five did not have acceptable data to demonstrate to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress that the program had the intended impact. It seems as though that is changing and can possibly help with increasing funding later.