



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 3, 2015

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Norma Jean Sass   
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

**SUBJECT:** Clarification to the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Memo: Determination Requirements  
under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004 established reporting requirements under Section 616, mandating states to make annual determinations on the performance of each local special education program serving students with individualized education programs (IEPs). Most of the data used corresponds to the State Performance Plan indicators as required by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs. In Michigan, the determination is based on selected 2013-2014 data from the Michigan Student Data System, audit findings, and additional required sources.

States are required to use the following determination categories outlined in the IDEA to evaluate each special education program:

- Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B;
- Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B;
- Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B; or
- Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B.

A detailed process of the elements the Office of Special Education used to assign determination categories to each local special education program serving students with an IEP is available as a link on the September 2015 "Reports" page in the new electronic system.

We appreciate your efforts to improve results for students with IEPs and look forward to continuing our work with you. Please feel free to contact Jessica Brady at [BradyJ@michigan.gov](mailto:BradyJ@michigan.gov) if you have any questions.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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