



QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

West Virginia Department of Education

Division of Curriculum and Instructional Services

Office of Special Programs

▶ Office of Special Programs (OSP)

OSP's mission is to improve results for children and youth with exceptionalities, primarily through leadership and financial support to local education agencies.

- OSP is responsible for the administration of the federal *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA).
 - The State Performance Plan (SPP) describes the state's system for improving student outcomes and compliance with IDEA and sets targets for performance on twenty indicators.
 - The Annual Performance Report (APR) displays data showing the state's performance on each SPP indicator and summarizes improvement activities completed during the year.
- IDEA authorizes OSP to administer the following funding formula grant programs to counties:
 - The Grants to Counties Program, which is authorized by Part B Section 611 for children 3-21;
 - The Preschool Grants Program, which is authorized by Part B Section 619 for children ages 3-5.
- Policy 2419: Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities and WV Code §18-20-1 establish special education for students with disabilities and students who are gifted in West Virginia. Funds are provided through:
 - The State Aid to Counties Program, which is authorized by WV Code §18-20-1 for children ages 3-21.
- OSP also awards discretionary grants to support direct services, technical assistance and dissemination, technology, personnel development and capacity building.

▶ Monitoring and County Improvement

OSP is responsible for:

- Collecting, verifying, analyzing and reporting all federally and state required data and submitting reports to the U.S. Department of Education, West Virginia Board of Education and the legislature;
- Publicly reporting child count, dropout, graduation, educational environment, race/ethnicity, assessment and other data for students with disabilities for each LEA and the state;
- Reviewing local education agencies' (LEAs') annual Comprehensive Self-Assessment Desk Audit (CSADA) and Annual Desk Audit (ADA);
- Administering the formula grant application process;
- Monitoring LEAs to ensure consistency with federal and state requirements;
- Making annual determinations of each LEA's compliance status;
- Investigating and resolving complaints regarding the education of students with exceptionalities;
- Administering the due process hearing system; and
- Maintaining the mediation system.

Each LEA is assigned contacts with OSP to help meet its *IDEA* responsibilities.

OSP county contacts:

- Provide county directors with all necessary information related to CSADAs, CIFMS, ADAs and grant applications;
- Review and recommend approval of the county grant application; and
- Provide and coordinate technical assistance to LEAs.



Research to Practice

OSP has been awarded competitive grants by the U.S. Department of Education:

Through the Special Education Professional Development Grant (SPDG):

- Each Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) is assigned a Response To Intervention (RTI) Specialist to help implement the Multi-Tier Systems of Support. RTI Specialists provide and coordinate technical assistance to the LEAs.

Through the General Supervision and Enhancement Grant (GSEG):

- WVDE staff, in the Office of Special Programs and Technology, is refining and managing technical assistance through county level teams in support of statewide implementation of the WV Online IEP. Online IEP navigation, compliance, and standards based IEP design as well as more purposeful application of high quality instructional strategies and resources are the training targets. This work is critical to full implementation of the decision making perspectives and processes that will support higher achievement for all students with disabilities in West Virginia.

Through the Deafblind Grant:

- Direct technical assistance is provided to families and children with deafblindness and professional development is provided to service providers.



County Resources

The OSP funds a special education director in each Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) to support LEAs within the RESA in meeting their IDEA responsibilities. RESA Special Education Directors:

- Support local schools in improvement efforts through WVDE's Statewide System of Support;
- Provide and coordinate technical assistance and professional development to the LEAs;
- Assist LEA special education directors with meeting compliance requirements; and
- Help parents and other constituents understand the IDEA regulations.



Additional Resources

Additional information regarding OSP programs, monitoring, dispute resolution, communications and public reporting is available on the OSP website at <http://wvde.state.wv.us/osp/>

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| ➤ Office of Special Programs | 1-800-642-8541 |
| Building 6, Room 304 | 1-304-558-2696 |
| Charleston, WV 25305-0330 | FAX 1-304-558-3741 |
| ➤ West Virginia Department of Education | http://wvde.state.wv.us |
| ➤ Regional Education Service Agency | RESA 1 1-800-766-7372 |
| | RESA 2 1-800-967-7372 |
| | RESA 3 1-800-257-3723 |
| | RESA 4 1-800-251-7372 |
| | RESA 5 1-866-232-7372 |
| | RESA 6 1-800-234-7372 |
| | RESA 7 1-800-427-3600 |
| | RESA 8 1-800-367-3728 |