Special Education Technical Assistance Update -December 3, 2020



■ The Child Find, Evaluation, and ARD Supports Network have just posted several new resources.



- Best Practices for Conducting a Virtual Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) Committee Meeting - This recording addresses critical issues and provides best practices in conducting virtual ARD committee meetings.
- Referral for Initial Evaluation Quick Guide and Video This quick guide and video highlight the key points and important resources for LEAs to consider for receiving referrals and requests for initial special education evaluations.
- Guidelines When Considering an Initial Referral for Special Education for English Learners (ELs)-Supplemental Response Form to the Student Data Review Guide - This supplemental form is designed to help culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) review teams consolidate the referral information for easy reference as they analyze a variety of information.
- Several TEA and U.S. Department of Education (USDE) resources about compensatory services for students receiving special education services are available.



- TEA's Strong Start 2020-21 Students with Disabilities Planning Supports Guidebook -This resource provides information, considerations, and resources to help plan for students with disabilities into the school year 20-21. Compensatory services guidance, information, and resources appear on pg. 46.
- TEA's Compensatory Services VIDEO and PDF (August 2020)- This 30 minute video defines compensatory services and its role in 4 different areas, nonnegotiables, key considerations, guidelines, and graduation and transition, and clarifies the differences between compensatory services, intensive program of instruction (IPI), and Extended School Year services (ESY).
- TEA's Considerations for Extended School Year and Compensatory Services for Students with Disabilities During and After Texas School Closures Due to COVID-19 - This guidance document provides information, tips, and resources to help LEAs and ARD committees appropriately and effectively consider the provision of compensatory services and extended school year (ESY) to students. The document identifies key differences between ESY and compensatory services.
- USDE's Questions and Answers on Providing Services to Children With Disabilities During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak (March 2020) - This document answers general questions regarding special education services during the COVID-19 pandemic and addresses questions around FAPE and compensatory services.
- USDE's OSEP QA 20-01 (September 2020) This question and answer document provides responses to inquiries concerning implementation of the IDEA part B services in the current COVID-19 environment. This document refers to compensatory services information, reinforces requirements around provision of FAPE, and provides responses to several questions regarding service provision.