



**TEA/LEA Webinar  
September 26, 2024  
Office of Special Populations and  
Student Supports**

# Agenda



General Updates



Follow Up Q&A From Previous Webinars



# General Updates

## Important Update:

- On behalf of HHSC's Provider Finance Department all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) who ONLY participated in SHARS in FFY 2024 will NOT be required to complete October reporting in the Local Funds Tracking System. Emails were sent on 9/6 and 9/25 from HHSC Provider Finance Department.
- *Note: the ONLY refers to only SHARS participation in relation to the other sources listed at [1 TAC 355.8704](#) not whether this was the first time participating.*

Email [PFD\\_LFM@hhs.Texas.gov](mailto:PFD_LFM@hhs.Texas.gov) with questions.

- New policy changes in effect as of 10/1/2024:
  - <https://www.tmhp.com/news/2024-08-16-shars-benefits-texas-medicaid-will-change-october-1-2024>
  
- School Based Medicaid Resource and Training (SMRT) team has provided a list of LEAs they are scheduled to visit this year:
  - <https://pfd.hhs.texas.gov/acute-care/school-based-medicaid-resource-and-training>
  - <https://pfd.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/acute-care/shars-lea-schedule.pdf>

## LEAs can direct SHARS inquiries to the following:

- Policy questions – [medicaidbenefitrequest@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:medicaidbenefitrequest@hhsc.state.tx.us)
- Billing questions – [ProviderFinanceSHARS@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:ProviderFinanceSHARS@hhs.texas.gov)
- IDEA related requirements – [SHARS@tea.texas.gov](mailto:SHARS@tea.texas.gov)

HHSC and TEA are working collaboratively on inquiries from the field.

Some confusion around the rule related to [Contracting for Nonpublic or Non-District Operated Day Placements for the Provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education \(FAPE\)](#) has occurred within the last few weeks. Funding implications has been a concern brought to the agency.

More information will be shared with local education agencies (LEAs) in the coming days and weeks to offer flexibilities where a negative funding impact has been identified or anticipated.



# Follow Up Q&A from Previous Webinars



# Homebound / Home-Based Instructional Arrangement



Do we not need medical documentation for homebound any longer?

# Homebound/ Home-Based Instructional Arrangement



Is a physician statement required for the homebound instructional arrangement for students 3-5 years of age?

# Developmental Delay



## Developmental Delay (DD) –

- Definition
- Timeline for Use
- Students who Transfer with DD
- TSDS PEIMS

# Definition of DD



A student with developmental delay is one who is between the ages of 3-9 who is evaluated by a multidisciplinary team for **at least one disability category listed in paragraphs (1)-(12)** of this subsection and whose evaluation data indicates a need for special education and related services and shows evidence of, but **does not clearly confirm, the presence of the suspected disability or disabilities due to the child's young age.** In these cases, an ARD committee may determine that data supports identification of developmental delay in one or more of the following areas: **physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development.** To use this eligibility category, multiple sources of data must converge to indicate the student has a developmental delay as described by one of the following:

# Definition of DD



**(A)** performance on appropriate norm-referenced measures, including developmental measures, indicate that the student is at least 2 standard deviations below the mean or at the 2nd percentile of performance, when taking into account the standard error of measurement (SEM), in **one area of development** as listed in this paragraph, along with additional convergent evidence such as interviews and observation data that supports the delay in that area;

# Definition of DD



(B) performance on appropriate norm-referenced measures, including developmental measures, indicate that the student is at least 1.5 standard deviations below the mean or at the 7th percentile of performance, when taking into account the SEM, **in at least two areas of development** as listed in this paragraph, along with additional convergent evidence such as interviews and observation data that supports the delays in those areas; **or**

# Definition of DD



**(C)** a **body of evidence from multiple direct and indirect sources**, such as play-based assessments, information from the student's parent, interviews, observations, work samples, checklists, and other informal and formal measures of development, that **clearly document a history and pattern of atypical development that is significantly impeding the student's performance and progress across settings** when compared to age-appropriate expectations and developmental milestones in **one or more areas** of development as listed in this paragraph.

# Timeline for Use



- Developmental Delay can be used beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.
- Noncategorical early childhood (NCEC) can no longer be used beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, although if a student begins the school year with the NCEC identification, the child can retain that identification category until a re-evaluation would be necessary at age 6.



# Students who Transfer with DD Eligibility



- Students who transfer into the district with a DD eligibility can maintain this eligibility if the district follows the requirements described in 19 TAC 89.1055(s) regarding in-state and out-of-state transfer students and the ARD committee has determined the identification of DD meets one of the criteria at 19 TAC 89.1040(C)(13) for DD eligibility.

# TSDS/PEIMS



## DR4

StudentSpecialEducationProgramAssociation>Disability

The Disability common type captures an impairment of body structure or function, a limitation in activities, or a restriction in participation, as ordered by severity of impairment.

Disability (E3015) indicates the disability category that describes a child's impairment.

Disability 12 (Developmental Delay) can only be reported for special education students who are less than 10 years of age on the PEIMS Fall snapshot date (last Friday in October)

[TWEDS - Entity List \(state.tx.us\)](http://state.tx.us)

# Dyslexia Evaluations



Are outside evaluators who complete an independent educational evaluation (IEE) required to meet the requirements listed in the Dyslexia Handbook for the required multidisciplinary team (MDT) member?

# Overview of Special Education for Parents Form



Is the Overview of Special Education for Parents form required for initial evaluations only or for every evaluation?

# STAAR-Alt 2 Participation Form



Are districts required to use the TEA STAAR-Alt 2 form, or can they use the software version created by their IEP digital platform vendor?

# STAAR-Alt 2 Participation Form



Do we have to include both the STAAR-Alt 2 form and the TELPAS-Alt form in the student's IEP?

# OHI Eligibility



Is a formal Other Health Impairment (OHI) eligibility report still required to be signed by a doctor, or does any kind of documentation from a doctor suffice?

# Guidance for Comprehensive Evaluation of SLD



When will the Guidance for Comprehensive Evaluation of Specific Learning Disability (SLD) course be available?



# IEP Goals



If a student is being pulled for behavior intervention as needed, do we write annual goals for every single class?



**Thank you!**