Texas Education Agency

Special Education Data System (SPEDS): 2025-26 School Year

Agenda

- **Overview:** Why and how special education data reporting is changing
- **Background:** SPP requirements and current collection methods
- **Transition to SPEDS:** Timeline and rationale for moving to TSDS
- **SPP Indicators in SPEDS:** Focus on Indicators 7, 11, 12, 13 (what's new)
- **Impacts on LEAs:** Data submission changes, workload, and benefits
- **LEA Responsibilities:** Ensuring data accuracy and compliance
- **Training & Support:** How ESCs, TEA, and vendors will assist; resources available

Special Education Reporting Background

- **IDEA Requirements:** Annual federal reporting via SPP/APR
- **State Performance Plan (SPP):** Framework of indicators to measure performance and compliance
- **Applicable Indicators:**
  - SPPI 7 Preschool Outcomes
  - SPPI 11A/B Initial Evaluation & Eligibility Determination
  - SPPI 12 Early Childhood Transition
  - SPPI 13 Secondary Transition

Data Collection – Current Methods (Historical)

TSDS Child Find

SPPI 11
Timely Initial Evaluation

SPPI 12
Early Childhood Transition

TEAL SPP Application

SPPI 7
Preschool Outcomes

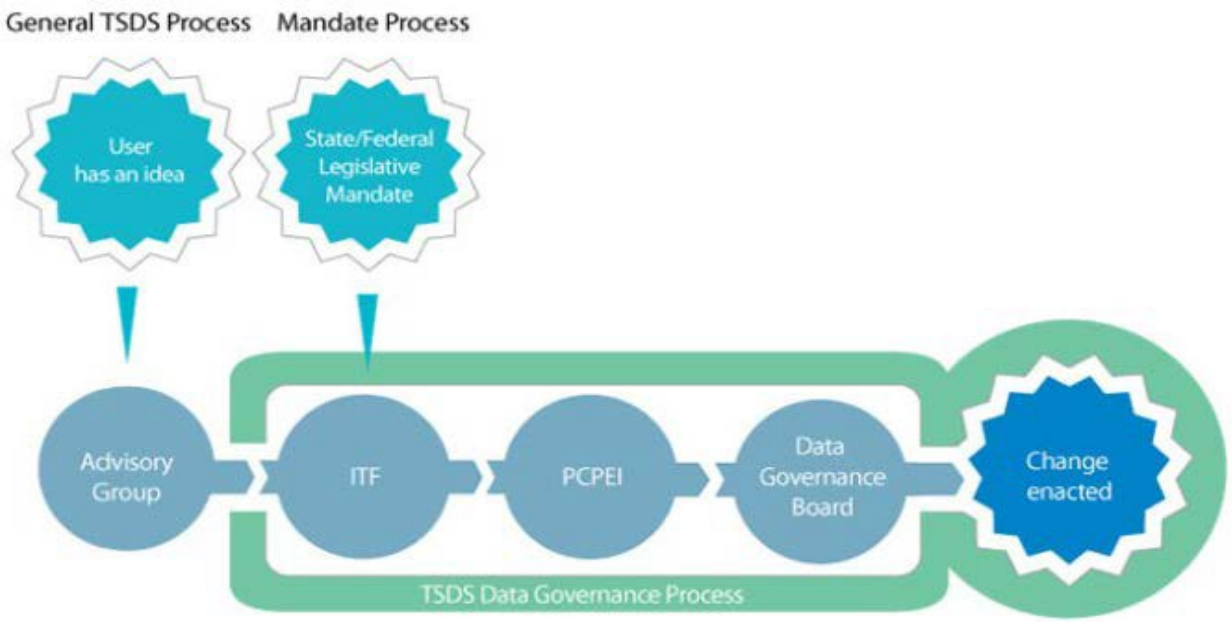
SPPI 13
Secondary Transition

Separate Processes

Different timelines and platforms for different indicators

(TEAL vs TSDS)

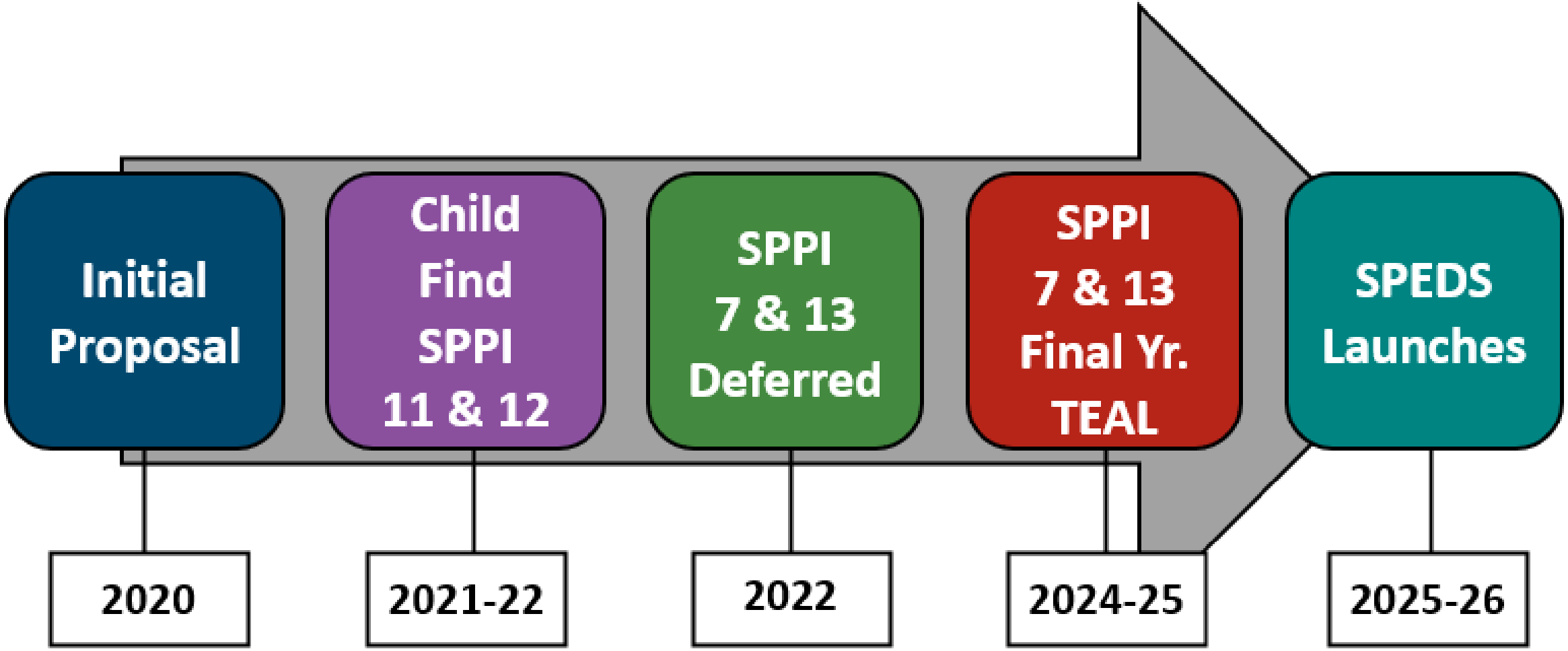
Data Governance – How New Collections Are Approved



- **Governance Process:** Review for new data requests
- **Authority to Collect Data:** Federal / state requirement or law
- **Approval Steps:** (OP 10-07)

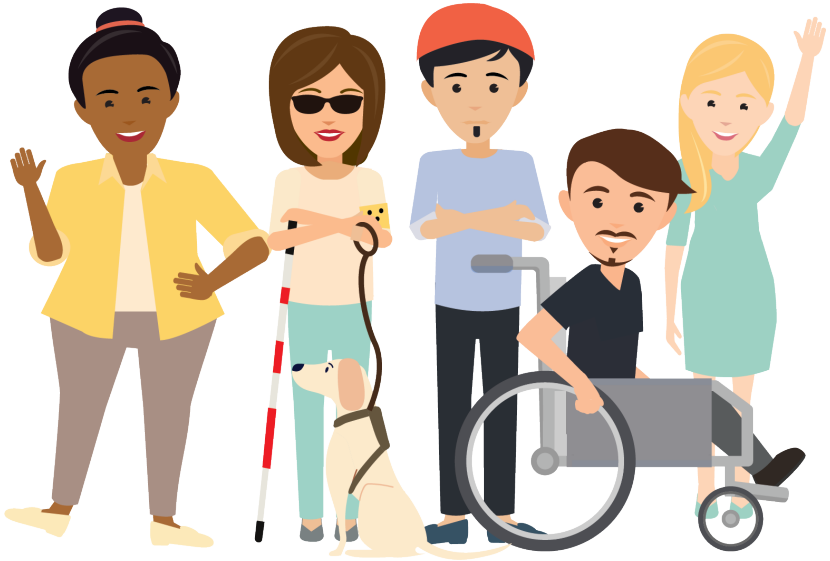
Needs Assessment → Stakeholder Input → Proposal → Green Light for Implementation

Timeline – Transition to SPEDS Collection (2020–2025)



Introducing the TSDS SPEDS Collection

- **Unified Submission:** TSDS SPEDS = One collection for SPPI 7, 11, 12, & 13
- **Aligned Timeline:** Single reporting period and one submission deadline
- **Data Quality & Efficiency:** TSDS validations; SIS/IEP data integration
- **Mandatory for All LEAs:** Submit data or certify zero-data



SPPI 11 – Child Find (in TSDS)

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SPPI 11A – Timely Initial Evaluations

45 school days – w/some specified exceptions
(state timeline 19 TAC §89.1011(d))

SPPI 11B – Eligibility Determination

30 calendar days after FIIE
(federal and state requirement - 34 CFR §300.323(c)(1); TAC §89.1011(e))

SPPI 11

Timely Initial Evaluation

- Compliance Indicator: 100%
- Child Find → SPEDS Submission
- No change in what data are submitted
- All LEAs complete the submission process

SPPI 12 – Early Childhood Transition (in TSDS)

SPPI 12

Early Childhood Transition

- Transition from Part C to Part B by age 3
- Compliance Indicator: 100%
- Child Find → SPEDS Submission
- No change to data submission
- All LEAs complete the submission process

SPPI 7 – Preschool Outcomes (NEW in TSDS)

SPPI 7

Preschool Outcomes

- **Progress:** Three Outcome Areas (Ages 3-5, not in kindergarten)
- **COS Process:** Ratings at Entry and Exit
- **Exit Reason:** at least 6 months & one of the exit criterion:
  - Dismissed by ARD Committee, or
  - Transitioned to Kindergarten, or
  - Child Turned Six Years Old
- **Data Submission:** Single submission (both Entry and Exit submitted upon Exit)
- **Data Maintenance:** Maintain COS ratings in student record

SPPI 13 – Secondary Transition (NEW: Selection → Census)

SPPI 13

Secondary Transition

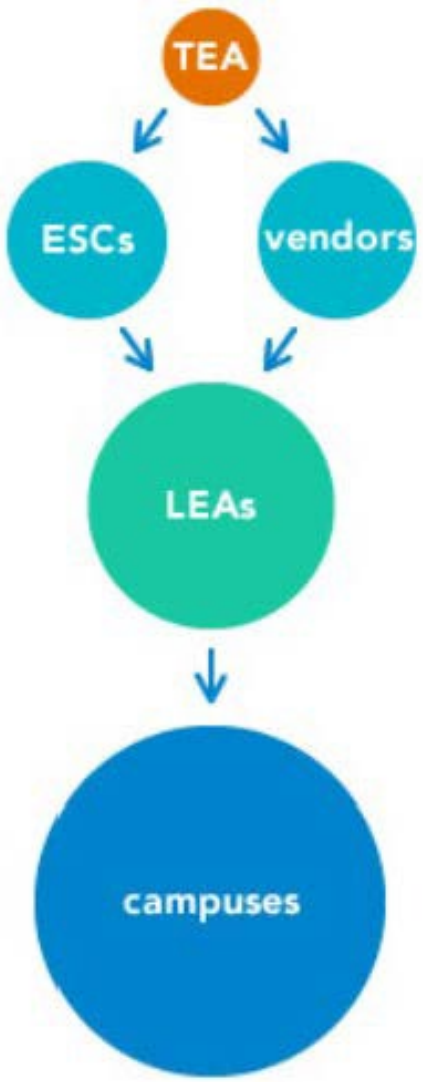
- **Ages 16 -21:** IEPs contain secondary transition requirements
- **Compliance Indicator:** 100%
- **Data Submission:** TEAL to TSDS
- **Data Elements:** 8 IEP secondary transition requirements
- **No More Selection:** ALL applicable students report by system

LEA Responsibilities for Data Submission

Special Education Program Staff & Data Steward/PEIMS

- Collaboration is Key
- Plan Together
- Keep Communication Open
- Timely & Accurate Submission
- Data Quality Steps:
  - Verify
  - Validate
  - Resolve all errors

Training and Implementation Support



"Train-the-Trainer" Model

- TEA training to ESCs and Vendors
- ESCs training to LEAs
- LEA Internal Training
- Vendor Support
- Documents and Guides

Resources for SPEDS Transition

- **Federal Indicator Definitions:** Part B SPP/APR Indicator Measurement Table
- **Regulatory Guidance:** Part B Related Requirements
- **Technical Standards:** TSDS Web-Enabled Data Standards (TWEDS)
- **Approved Systems:** TSDS Certified Vendors
- **TEA Guidance:** SPPI 7, 11, 12, and 13 Webpages
- **Communications:**
  - TAA Communications
  - Special Education Newsletter
  - Special Education Webinars

Support and Contacts

- ESC TSDS Champions
- TSDS Incident Management System (TIMS)
- Vendor Support
- TEA Contacts

Thank You and Next Steps

- Share what you have learned
- Contact your vendor
- Watch for training opportunities
- Reach out to your ESC Champion

Resources

- State Performance Plan Indicators Webpage
- TSDS Web-Enabled Data Standards
- Part B SPP/APR Indicator Measurement Table
- TSDS Champions (ESCs 1-10, ESCs 11-20)
- TAA Communications
- Special Education Newsletters & Webinars