



Illinois State Board of Education

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Jesse H. Ruiz
Chairman

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Date: 3/20/2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Directors of Special Education
Early Childhood Special Education Coordinators

FROM: David Andel, Division Administrator, Special Education Services
Kay Henderson, Division Administrator, Early Childhood

SUBJECT: Illinois State Performance Plan Indicator 7
Early Childhood Outcomes Transition from IWAS to SIS

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires each state to submit a State Performance Plan (SPP) designed to evaluate the State's efforts to improve results for students with disabilities. Under SPP Indicator 7, the State must submit data to measure progress for Early Childhood Special Education students under the following three areas:

- A) Positive social-emotional skills,
- B) Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, and
- C) Use of appropriate actions to meet their needs.

Technical assistance resources related to Early Childhood Outcomes ratings and Indicator 7 can be found at http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/html/ec_speced_outcomes.htm.

In an effort to integrate data systems, the Early Childhood Outcomes data collection has been integrated into the Student Information System (SIS). Previously, ISBE collected these entry and exit ratings from districts through the Special Education Early Childhood Outcome System IWAS application. **This IWAS application will no longer be available after July 31, 2009. Beginning August 1, 2009, all Early Childhood Special Education Outcomes data will be required to be submitted via SIS.**

In the interim, ISBE is encouraging districts to begin transitioning from the old IWAS system to the SIS data collection. Once a district begins providing Early Childhood Outcomes data through SIS, the district will not be required to provide data to the old IWAS system. Further, if the district has reported entry ratings for students in the old IWAS system, re-reporting these entry ratings in SIS is optional. **Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, SIS will prohibit Early Childhood students who have had an IEP from being promoted to Kindergarten if Early Childhood Outcomes exit ratings are not provided, as required by SPP Indicator 7.**

For additional information regarding SIS Early Childhood Outcomes reporting requirements, please visit <http://www.isbe.net/sis>. Additional assistance can be obtained by contacting the ISBE SIS Help Desk at 217/558-3600 or help@isbe.net.