



**child  
development  
services**

State Intermediate Educational Unit-146 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333  
Telephone (207 624-6660-Fax (207) 624-6661-TTY-1-888-577-6690

CDS Informational Letter: Number 2

DATE: January 9, 2009

TO: Child Development Services Board Chairs, State Level Advisory Committee Members, and Regional Site Directors

FROM: David Noble Stockford, Team Leader and Policy Director,  
Debra Hannigan, State Director, Child Development Services

RE: CDS State IEU Follow up to Informational Letter #51; Regarding School Administrative Unit (SAU), including CDS sites: Results from Profiled Data under IDEA State Performance Plan (SPP) Determinations (<http://www.maine.gov/education/edlets/ilethome.shtml>)

Under the 2004 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) amendments, Section 616, each State has a State Performance Plan (SPP) that evaluates the State's efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of IDEA and describes how the State will implement the requirements of IDEA and the performance of students with disabilities on the IDEA, SPP indicators.

Based on an analysis of each State's data, the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) classifies each State's performance into one of four incremental levels of determination: 1) meets the requirements of IDEA; 2) needs technical assistance to meet the requirements of IDEA; 3) needs intervention to meet the requirements of IDEA; or 4) needs substantial intervention to meet the requirements of IDEA. Maine's status for 2008-09 was determined to be Level 2 ("needs technical assistance" for Section 619) and Level 3 ("needs intervention for Part C); this is Maine's second year at that level.

To determine the State's status in meeting the requirements, OSEP uses: information provided in the State's Annual Performance Report (APR) and SPP; other State-reported data, information obtained through monitoring visits, and other public information relative to each local educational agency (SAU).

As part of its IDEA obligations, CDS State IEU must assess the compliance of all SAUs using the same four levels used by OSEP (listed above) when making State determinations of SAUs. This process requires that the CDS State IEU review SAU performance against targets in the SPP, determine if each SAU meets the requirements of IDEA, inform each SAU of its determination, and identify resources for technical assistance to the SAUs that have not met the targets.



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The SAU performance profiles (without determinations) are now on the website at <http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/spp/cdsprofiles.html>.

The CDS State IEU has established a General Supervision System (GSST) for purposes of making determinations and providing follow up to each site. This includes providing information that further explains the target to be achieved and methods for achieving that target, some of which are:

- Conduct a team self-assessment;
- Determine the needs for professional development or technical assistance based on the performance profile indicators that have not met the target;
- Identify and categorize available professional development and technical assistance resources to use for an improvement plan; and
- Finalize an Corrective Action Plan that will be in place until receipt of the new SAU performance profile.

The CDS State IEU will continue our current Year 2 monitoring process through June 30, 2009. During this time we will continue to provide information on the GSST to our stake holders. Effective on July 1, 2009 we will initiate full implementation of the Determinations Response portion of the GSST. The GSST document is now on the website at [http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/cds/supervision/gsst\\_109.ppt](http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/cds/supervision/gsst_109.ppt).

CDS State IEU personnel will continue to provide assistance through June 30, 2009 as we initiate this process. For further information contact, Debra Hannigan ([Debra.Hannigan@maine.gov](mailto:Debra.Hannigan@maine.gov) ), Erica Thompson ([Erica.Thompson@maine.gov](mailto:Erica.Thompson@maine.gov) ) and/ or Janna Gregory ([Janna.Gregory@maine.gov](mailto:Janna.Gregory@maine.gov)).