

MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Office Hours: IEP –
Compliant vs. Best
Practice Part 1
9/24/2025



Presented by: The OSSIE Supervision, Monitoring and Support Team



Supervision, Monitoring and Support Team



Colette Sullivan
Federal Programs Coordinator
colette.sullivan@maine.gov



Jennifer Gleason **Educational Specialist**jennifer.gleason@maine.gov



Karlie Thibodeau **Educational Specialist**karlie.l.thibodeau@maine.gov



Ashley Satre **Educational Specialist**ashley.satre@maine.gov





Julie Pelletier
Secretary Associate
julie.pelletier@maine.gov



Compliance versus Best Practice

Our Supervision, Monitoring and Support Team has a variety of responsibilities. Two major components include:

- 1. Review Compliance
- 2. Professional Development

Everything captured on the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) is generated from those **Compliance** items, which are cited back to IDEA.

Best Practice is what we want for all students.

Best Practice is better programming.

Best Practice is what we present in training and meets all areas of Compliance.



Compliance versus Best Practice

Compliant IEP



Good IEP



Compliance versus Best Practice

Consider this example -

<u>Compliance</u> – documenting in a Written Notice that a Parent chose to waive their right to 7-day notice to implement the IEP.

<u>Best Practice</u> – documenting in a Written Notice that a Parent chose to waive their right to 7-day notice to implement the IEP AND having them complete the *optional* form.

BOTH are correct but our team would only look for **Compliance**.

Best Practice

Compliance



Compliance and Best Practice

*Compliance *Best Practice			
WRN2- Compliance:			
☐ The Written Notice (WN	☐ The Written Notice (WN) indicates who was in attendance		
The WN identifies in wh	☐ The WN identifies in what capacity they attended the IEP meeting (i.e., administrator, general and		
special education teacher,	parent, child, etc.)		
☐ All required members w	vere in attendance or excused		
	Maine Department of Education Maine Unified Special Education Regulations (MI INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PRO	USER IX.3.G.)	
SAU or CDS Site:		, ,	
Date IEP Sent to Parent:			
FOT7- Compliance:			
			
☐ Date sent to parent is <	21 school days from Annual Date of IEP	Meeting	
CHILD INFORMATION			
Child's Name:	Annual Date of IEP	_	
Date of Birth:	Duration of the IEF		
Age:	Grade: Date of Next Annu	•	
	FOT8- Compliar		
	☐ Date of next	t annual is within 364 days of annual	
	meeting date		
School/Program:	Date of Re-Evaluat		
Parent/Guardian Name:	Date(s) of Amende	ed IEP:	
Child's Address:	Case Manager:		
City, State, ZIP:			
State Agency Client? ☐ YES ☐ N	10		
2. DISABILITY	·		
☐ Autism	☐ Deaf-Blindness	☐ Deafness	
☐ Developmental Delay (3-5)	☐ Developmental Delay (Kindergarten)	☐ Emotional Disturbance	
☐ Hearing Impairment	☐ Intellectual Disability	☐ Visual Impairment (including Blindness)	
☐ Other Health Impairment	☐ Orthopedic Impairment	☐ Speech/Language Impairment	
☐ Specific Learning Disability	☐ Traumatic Brain Injury	☐ Multiple Disability	
		(check all applicable concomitant disabilities)	
Compliance:			

IEP Quick Reference Document

- RED reflects Compliance
- BLUE reflects Best Practice



- Only one disability checked, unless Multiple Disability is checked
- ☐ If Multiple Disability is checked, all disabilities making up the multiple are checked

Section 1 & 2 – Compliance

Date IEP Sent to Parent:		
FOT7- Compliance:		
☐ Date sent to parent is ≤ 2	21 school days from Annual Date of IEP N	Neeting
1. CHILD INFORMATION		
Child's Name:	Annual Date of IEP I	Meeting:
Date of Birth:	Duration of the IEP:	
Age: G	Grade: Date of Next Annua	I IEP Meeting:
	FOT8- Compliand	ce:
	☐ Date of next	annual is within 364 days of annual
	meeting date	•
School/Program:	Date of Re-Evaluation	on:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Date(s) of Amended	I IEP:
Child's Address:	Case Manager:	
City, State, ZIP:		
State Agency Client? ☐ YES ☐ NC		
2. DISABILITY	☐ Deaf-Blindness	☐ Deafness
2. DISABILITY Autism		
☐ Autism	 Developmental Delay (Kindergarten) 	☐ Emotional Disturbance
☐ Autism ☐ Developmental Delay (3-5)	Developmental Delay (Kindergarten)Intellectual Disability	☐ Emotional Disturbance☐ Visual Impairment (including Blindness)
☐ Autism ☐ Developmental Delay (3-5) ☐ Hearing Impairment	☐ Intellectual Disability	 □ Visual Impairment (including Blindness) □ Speech/Language Impairment □ Multiple Disability
☐ Autism ☐ Developmental Delay (3-5) ☐ Hearing Impairment ☐ Other Health Impairment	 □ Intellectual Disability □ Orthopedic Impairment 	 ☐ Visual Impairment (including Blindness) ☐ Speech/Language Impairment
☐ Autism ☐ Developmental Delay (3-5) ☐ Hearing Impairment ☐ Other Health Impairment	 □ Intellectual Disability □ Orthopedic Impairment 	 □ Visual Impairment (including Blindness) □ Speech/Language Impairment □ Multiple Disability

Section 1 – Compliance

SAU or CDS Site:		
Date IEP Sent to Pare	ent: 11/5/2024	
1. CHILD INFORM	MATION	
Child's Name:		Annual Date of IEP Meeting: 10/5/2024
Date of Birth:		Duration of the IEP: 10/15/2024-10/14/2025
Age:	Grade:	Date of Next Annual IEP Meeting: 10/4/2025
School/Program:		Date of Re-Evaluation: 12/2026
Parent/Guardian Nan	ne:	Date(s) of Amended IEP:
Child's Address:		Case Manager:
City, State, ZIP:		
State Agency Client?	□ YES □ NO	

MUSER IX.3.G

G. Copy of IEP to Parents. A complete copy of the Individualized Education Program shall be provided to the parent within 21 school days of the IEP Meeting at which the IEP was developed.



Section 1 – Compliance

The date of the annual review and the duration of the IEP must **not** exceed 364 days



Duration of the IEP: 10/15/2024-10/14/2025

Date of Next Annual IEP Meeting: 10/4/2025

(5) To review, at least annually, the Individualized Education Program of each child with a disability to:

MUSER VI.2.J(5)

Section 2 – Compliance

2. DISABILITY		
☐ Autism	☐ Deaf-Blindness	☐ Deafness
☐ Developmental Delay (3-5)	 Developmental Delay (Kindergarten) 	☐ Emotional Disability
☐ Hard of Hearing	☐ Intellectual Disability	 Visual Impairment (including Blindness)
☑ Other Health Impairment	 Orthopedic Impairment 	☐ Speech/Language Impairment
☐ Specific Learning Disability	☐ Traumatic Brain Injury	☐ Multiple Disability
		(check all applicable concomitant disabilities)
<u>OR</u>		

2. DISABILITY		
☐ Autism	□ Deaf-Blindness	☐ Deafness
☐ Developmental Delay (3-5)	 Developmental Delay (Kindergarten) 	☐ Emotional Disability
☐ Hard of Hearing	☐ Intellectual Disability	 Visual Impairment (including Blindness)
☑ Other Health Impairment	 Orthopedic Impairment 	☑ Speech/Language Impairment
☐ Specific Learning Disability	☐ Traumatic Brain Injury	☑ Multiple Disability
		(check all applicable concomitant disabilities)



Section 3 – Compliance

3.	3. CONSIDERATIONS – INCLUDING SPECIAL FACTORS		
C	CIM1- Compliance:		
	☐ Each question is answered		
	☐ If yes, addressed in IEP with goals, services, and/or accommodations		
A.	Concerns of the parents for enhancing the education of their child (MUSER IX.3.C.(1)(b)):		
В.	Does the child exhibit behavior that impedes the child's learning or that of others requiring positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies to address the behavior? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(a))	□ YES □ NO	
c.	Is the child identified as a student who is an English learner? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(b))	☐ YES ☐ NO	
	i. Does the child have language needs, due to his/her English language proficiency level, which need to be addressed in the IEP?	□ YES □ NO	
D.	If the child is blind or visually impaired, does the child require instruction in Braille and the use of Braille? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(c))	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ NA	
E.	Does the child have a print disability that requires accessible educational materials (AEM) to access the curriculum?	□ YES □ NO	
	i. If yes, what type of accessible educational materials (AEM) does the child require?		
F.	Does the child have communication needs? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(d))	☐ YES ☐ NO	
	i. Is the child deaf or hard of hearing?	☐ YES ☐ NO	
G.	Does the child need assistive technology devices and services? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(e))	☐ YES ☐ NO	
н.	Does the child have academic needs?	☐ YES ☐ NO	
ı.	Does the child have functional/developmental needs?	☐ YES ☐ NO	
PO	ST-SECONDARY TRANSITION		
J.	Is the child in 9th grade or above OR is the child 16 years old or older?	☐ YES ☐ NO	
	 If yes, Section 9 should be completed before completing the remainder of the IEP. 		

Section 3 – Compliance

3.	3. CONSIDERATIONS – INCLUDING SPECIAL FACTORS			
A.	Concerns of the parents for enhancing the education of their child (MUSER IX.3.C.(1)(b)):			
_	Door the shill subject he having that improduce the shill's learning or that of others requiring positive			
В.	Does the child exhibit behavior that impedes the child's learning or that of others requiring positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies to address the behavior? (MUSER	☐ YES ☐ NO		
	IX.3.C.(2)(a))			
c.	Does the child have limited English proficiency? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(b))	☐ YES ☐ NO		
	i. Does the child have language needs, due to limited English proficiency, which need to be addressed in the IEP?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
D.	If the child is blind or visually impaired, does the child require instruction in Braille and the use of Braille? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(c))	□ YES □ NO □ NA		
E.	Does the child have a print disability that requires accessible educational materials (AEM) to access the curriculum?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
	i. If yes, what type of accessible educational materials (AEM) does the child require?			
F.	Does the child have communication needs? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(d))	☐ YES ☐ NO		
	i. Is the child deaf or hard of hearing?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
G.	Does the child need assistive technology devices and services? (MUSER IX.3.C.(2)(e))	☐ YES ☐ NO		
н.	Does the child have academic needs?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
I.	Does the child have functional/developmental needs?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
PO	ST-SECONDARY TRANSITION			
J.	Is the child in 9 th grade or above OR is the child 16 years old or older?	☐ YES ☐ NO		
	 If yes, Section 9 should be completed before completing the remainder of the IEP. 			

- Think of this as the <u>Table of Contents</u>
- If any section is documented YES, then it is expected that there is corresponding information in the IEP itself.
- For every YES, the team wants to ensure alignment based on determinations discussed at the IEP meeting.

Section 4A & 4B - Compliance

A.	Results of all initial evaluations or most recent evaluations of the child:
	RAE1- Compliance:
	☐ Include evaluations that support the eligibility discussion
	☐ Include evaluation name
	☐ All evaluations must be dated
В.	Beyond the evaluative information in 4A, what are the academic, functional, and/or developmental strengths of the child?
	AFS1- Compliance:
	☐ Based on observations
	☐ Include areas of strength and relative strengths
	■ NOT a restatement of evaluations



Section 4A – Compliance

X IX.3.C.(1))

ACADEMIC AND FUNCTIONAL/DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATIONS, STRENGTHS, AND NEEDS

A. Results of all initial evaluations or most recent evaluations of the child

Psychoeducational Report 12/17/2023

WISC-5

Verbal Comprehension 75

Perceptual Reasoning 88

Working Memory 62

Processing Speed 73

Full Scale 70

WRAML-3

Verbal Memory Index Score 64

CTOPP-2

Phonological Awareness 88

Phonological Memory 61

Rapid Naming 58

BASC-2-Parent

Hyperactivity 60

Aggression 49

Externalizing Problems 47

Learning Problems 52

Social Skills 57

Study Skills 42

Attention Problems 45

Anxiety 37

Clinically Significant: Attention Problems, Learning Problems

At-Risk: Hyperactivity, Anxiety, Study Skills

GORT-5

Oral Reading Index 65

WIAT-4

Written Expression Composite 74

Mathematics Composite 81

Occupational Therapy Evaluation 12/11/2023

Test of Visual-Motor Integration

VMI 73

Visual Perception 104

Motor Coordination 81

WRAVMA

Composite Score 84

Compliance:

- **Evaluations that support** the eligibility discussion
 - **Evaluation** name
 - All evaluations must be dated

BASC-2-School

Hyperactivity 69

Aggression 49

Externalizing Problems 45 Learning Problems 78

Social Skills 48

Study Skills 35

Attention Problems 73

Anxiety 67

Basic Processes 91 Sequencing 111 Complex Processing 10 Sensory Profile School

Sensory Scores: Simila

Behavior

TVPS-4

Overall 96

Include:

- Academic evaluations that were used for eligibility or continuing eligibility
- Functional evaluations that were used for eligibility or continuing eligibility
- Relevant state or district assessments
- Transition assessments
- Other relevant assessments, such as FBA, related service evaluations or similar

Quadrant Scores: Similar to Others-Sensitivity; More than Others-Seeking, Avoiding; Much

More than Others-Registration

School Factor Scores: Similar to Others-seeking/sensitivity, sensitivity/avoiding; More than

Others-seeking/low registration, avoiding/low registration

Clinical Observations

Bilateral motor coordination-below those seen in same age peers

Motor Planning-below those seen in same age peers

Handwriting Screener

Overall score-56% (compared to peers at a standard of 91%)

Speech/Language Evaluation 12/10/23

CELF-5

Core Language Score 75

Receptive Language Index 69

Expressive Language Index 93 Language Content Index 82

Language Memory Index 78

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Section 4B: Compliance

Compliance:

- Based on observations
- Include areas of strength and relative strengths
 - NOT a restatement of evaluations
- B. Beyond the evaluative information in 4A, what are the academic, functional, and/or developmental strengths of the child?

 Leora loves to read and has strong decoding and comprehension skills.

 She has strong writing skills and enjoys sharing her stories with peers.

 Leora works hard and is very focused on all tasks presented to her.
 - What does the strength <u>look</u> like in the classroom?



Section 4C – Compliance & Best Practice

c.	,
	and how do they affect the child's involvement and progress in the general education curriculum?
	APG2- Compliance:
	□ Academic
	☐ Distinctly measurable and persistent skill gaps
	☐ Best Practice: Documented in a bulleted list
	☐ Best Practice: Focus on specific skill deficits e.g., fluency, comprehension, addition/subtraction
	APG4- Compliance:
	☐ How the deficit has an adverse impact on the child accessing the general education curriculum
	☐ This MUST be included with the academic needs statement
	APG6- Compliance:
	☐ Every academic skill gap in Section 4C is aligned to a goal in Section 5



Skill Deficits/Gaps -

Consider the following: Might Include (there are others)

Broad Academic Areas	Specific Skills	
Reading	Decoding, Encoding, Fluency, Comprehension, Sight Words, Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary or similar	
Writing	Sentence Structure, Paragraph Development, Organization, Details, Proofreading or similar	
Listening/Speaking	Story Retell, Collaboration, Language, Context, Describe, Summarizing or similar	
Mathematical Problem Solving	Addition/Subtraction, Multiplication/Division, Word Problems, Fluency, Measurement or similar	

Distinctly
Measurable and
Persistent Gaps
(Needs)



How Statement

Student Needs	How Statement
(Reading) Jimmy's reading fluency deficits	impact his ability to access grade level reading material in all subject areas.
(Writing) Sarah's spelling deficits	impact her ability to complete grade level writing prompts.
(Listening) Michael's listening comprehension deficits	impact his ability to understand grade level subject content.
(Speaking) Beth's inability to retell stories in a sequential manner	impacts her ability to complete grade level assessments.
(Mathematical Problem Solving) Tom's deficits in addition/subtraction	impacts his ability to calculate higher level math problems.

Section 4C – Compliance & Best Practice

Best Practice:
-Focus on specific skill deficits
-Document in a bulleted list

Section 4C-Academic gaps

C. Based on evaluative information in **4A**, what are the child's distinctly measurable and persistent gaps in **academic performance**, and **how** do they affect the child's involvement and progress in the general education curriculum?

Reading

- Decoding
- Comprehension

These reading gaps affect Jack's ability to access grade level content texts.

Writing

Essay Composition

These writing gaps affect Jack's ability to accurately reflect content area knowledge.

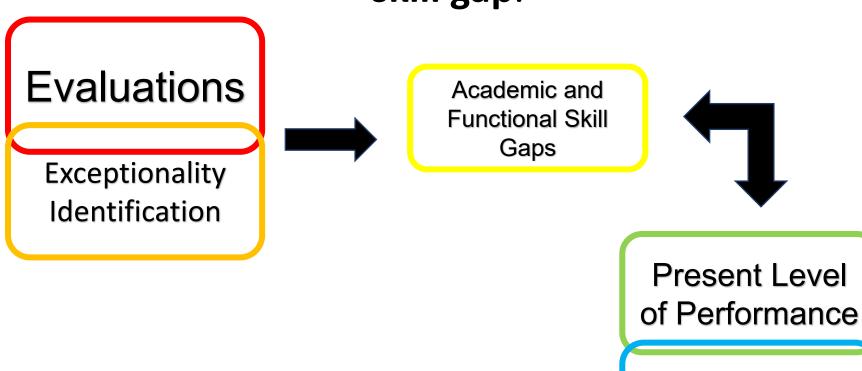
Math

Multi-digit addition/subtraction

These math gaps affect Jack's ability to access higher level math concepts.



Compliance – There must be a measurable goal for <u>each</u> distinctly measurable and persistent skill gap.



One-to-one correspondence. There needs to be a goal for <u>each</u> skill gap listed in sections 4C and 4D.



Measurable

Goals

Present level and measurable goal for each distinctly measurable and persistent skill gap.

Academic

C. Based on evaluative information in 4 and how do they affect the child's in

Reading

- Decoding
- Comprehension

These reading gaps affect Jack's ability to access gra Writing

Essay Composition

These writing gaps affect Jack's ability to accurately Math

Multi-digit addition/subtraction

These math gaps affect Jack's ability to access highe

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently decoding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 74% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will decode a

beginning of 4th grade level text with 85% accuracy as measured

by running records and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer

comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level text with 75% accuracy as measured by curriculum based

assessments and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.12

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack writes a 3 paragraph essay in 0 out of 5 opportunities.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will write a 3

paragraph essay in 4 out of 5 opportunities as measured by work samples and teacher collected data. MLR.W.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is able to add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 20% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

Progress:

Progress:

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

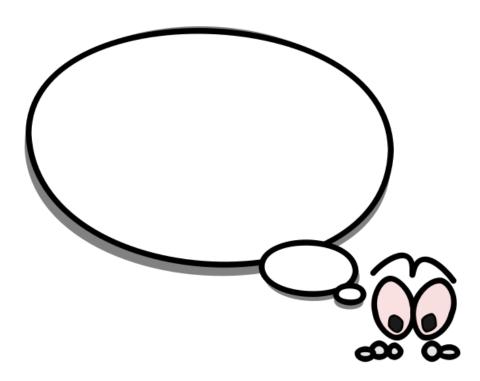
By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 85% accuracy as measured by work samples and teacher collected data.

MLR.QR.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Chat Box Check In





Section 5 (Academic) – Compliance & Best Practice

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (Part B, ages 3 - 20) refers to a child's ability to perform age appropriate (comparable to same age/grade peers) tasks and demonstrate appropriate skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and mathematical problem solving in the school environment. Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)): ☐ Best Practice: Present level is baseline data for the corresponding goal ☐ Best Practice: Avoid a range of data (60-70%) and subjective words e.g., sometimes, often, seems to, etc. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. SBG3- Compliance: ■ Must be measurable ■ Must include measurement data □ Cannot be specific curriculum or standard scores ☐ If a rubric is used as measurement, it must be attached to the IEP ■ Best Practice: Avoid multiple skills ■ Best Practice: Focus goal on specific skill deficits e.g., fluency, comprehension, addition/subtraction ☐ Best Practice: Measured using skill specific measurements/assessments, data collected through teacher observation, checklist/daily log, running records, work samples SBG4- Compliance: Cite standard ☐ Can be Common Core, Maine Learning Results, Guiding Principles and/or district adopted standards SBG5- Compliance: ■ Every goal needs to be aligned to a service in Section 7 **Objective(s)** required? ☐ Yes ☐ No By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. **ALT2- Compliance:** ☐ If the child participates in the Alternate Assessment, all academic goals

MUST have objectives.



Section 5: Academic Performance– Standards Based Goals

Best Practice:

- Present level is baseline data for the corresponding goal
- Avoid a range of data (60-70% and subjective words (sometimes, often)

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Molly can decode CVC words with 45% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 9/17/2023, given specially designed instruction, Molly will decode CVC words with 85% accuracy, as measured by data collection, teacher observation, work samples or similar. CITATION HERE

nent of cation

Measurable Academic Goals

Compliance versus Best Practice

Compliance –

- must be measurable
- must include measurement data
- cannot be specific curriculum or standard scores
- if a rubric is used as measurement, it must be attached to the IEP

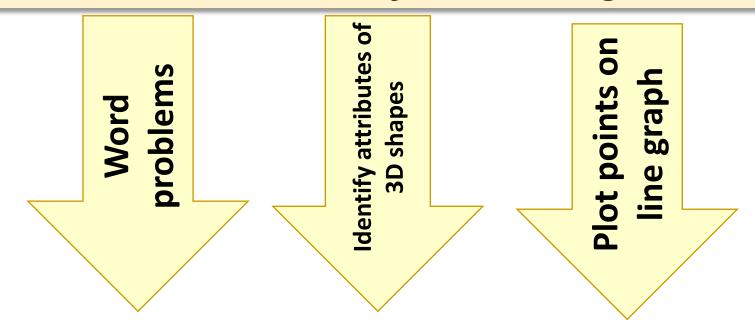
Best Practice –

- avoid multiple skills
- be skill specific, avoid outcome-based goals
- avoid using grade level as measurement



Measurable goals should be skill based, not outcome based.

Instead of writing goals around the outcome, what skills are you teaching?



What do we want all students to be able to do?

Maintain B+ average in math= OUTCOME



Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Lydia has an average of 40% in her 7th grade math class.

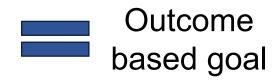
Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By February 2025, given specially designed instruction Lydia will earn an average of 80% in her general education math class as measured by goal book data and teacher observation.

Objective(s) required?
Yes
No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.



Skill based goal



Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Lydia is able to accurately solve word problems involving fractions
In 2 out of 10 opportunities

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By February 2025, given specially designed instruction and visual support such as number lines, Lydia will accurately solve word problems involving fractions in 9 out of 10 opportunities across 3 sessions as measured by work sample and teacher observation (MLR QE.EA.3)

Objective(s) required?

Yes

No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured



Do NOT include specific curriculums in your Present Levels or Goals.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)):

Leo is currently at Level A in the Pretend Reading Curriculum.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By <u>date</u>, given <u>service</u>, <u>child's name</u> will <u>skill</u> as measured by evidence.

By 11/2/2022, given specially designed instruction, Leo will move from Level A to Level B in the Pretend Reading Curriculum, as measured by work samples, data collection, teacher observation or similar. MLR R.3



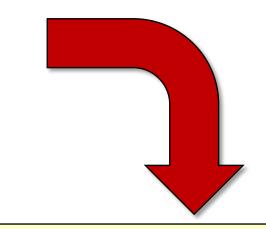
Pretend Reading Curriculum Level A

Child will learn:

19 Basic Consonant Sounds

High Frequency Sight Words 1-25

Segment Simple CVC Words



Pretend Reading Curriculum Level B

Child will learn:

Vowel Sounds

High Frequency Sight Words 26-40

Segment Simple CCVC Words



Do not include specific curriculums.

Focus on the **specific skill deficits** and include those deficits in the Present Levels and the Goals.

Pretend Reading Curriculum Level A

Child will learn:

19 Basic Consonant Sounds

High Frequency Sight Words 1-25

Segment Simple CVC Words

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)): Leo can segment simple CVC words with 15 % accuracy. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 11/2/2023, given specially designed instruction, Leo will segment CVC words with 80% accuracy, as measured by teacher observation, work samples or similar. CITATION HERE Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)): Leo currently identifies 7 of the 19 basic consonant sounds with 100% accuracy. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 11/2/2023, given specially designed instruction, Leo will identify 19 of the 19 basic consonant sounds with 100% accuracy, as measured by work samples, data collection, teacher observation or similar, MLR R.3



By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.



Writing Academic Goals

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

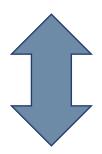
Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

Progress:

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level text with 75% accuracy as measured by <u>curriculum based</u> assessments and teacher collected data. MLR.R.5.EA



Once the goal is written based on the student's gaps, review the grade level standards, align, and add the citation linking it to the standard

Strand READING/KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS Standard 5 Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and ana development throughout each text.	
Grade Span	Early Adolescence Grades 6-8
Performance Expectations a. Provide an accurate summary of various texts; b. Determine theme(s) or central idea(s) and analyze how its development is conveyed over the course texts, including its relationship to specific supporting details.	



Section 5: Academic Performance – Standards Based Goals

Goals should facilitate the child's achievement of Common Core (CCSS), Maine Learning Results (MLR), Guiding Principles and/or

district adopted standards

Compliance-

➤ Each academic goal is cited to standards

Best Practice-

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- Each academic goal is cited to grade-level standards
- ➤ Each academic goal is cited to grade-level Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for students who take the alternate assessment



Section 5: Academic Performance – Standards Based Goals

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (Part B, ages 3 - 20) refers to a child's ability to perform age appropriate (comparable to same age/grade peers) tasks and demonstrate appropriate skills in *reading, writing, listening, speaking,* and *mathematical problem solving* in the school environment.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently decoding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 74% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

Progress:

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will decode a

beginning of 4th grade level text with 85% accuracy as measured

by running records and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

MLR = Maine Learning Results

R = Strand (Reading)

EA = Grade Span (Childhood (K-5), Early Adolescence (6-8), and Adolescence (9-Diploma)

3 = Standard Number





Section: 5 Academic Objectives

If student is identified in Section 6B that they will take the alternate assessment (6B is checked Yes), they must have objective(s) with their academic goal(s)

Progress:

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)):

Lily is currently able to participate in conversations (including but not limited <u>to</u>: eye contact with the speaker, use of text to speech device), and express her own thoughts in 5 out of 10 opportunities per week.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By November 5, 2024, given specially designed instruction in reading strategies, Lily will participate in conversations and express her own thoughts in 8 out of 10 opportunities per week as measured by teacher observation and data collection. CCSL.1

Objective(s) required?

✓ Yes

No

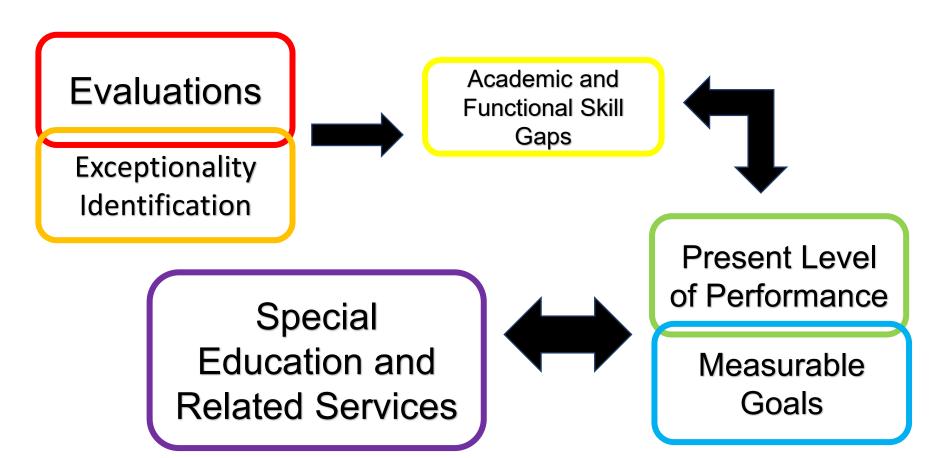
By <u>date</u>, given <u>service</u>, <u>child's name</u> will <u>skill</u> as measured by evidence.

By February 5, 2024, given specially designed instruction in reading strategies, Lily will participate in conversations and express her own thoughts in 6 out of 10 opportunities per week as measured by teacher observation and data collection.

By May 5, 2024, given specially designed instruction in reading strategies, Lily will participate in conversations and express her own thoughts in 7 out of 10 opportunities per week as measured by teacher observation and data collection.



Compliance – There must be a service for each measurable goal.



Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)): Jack is currently decoding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 74% accuracy. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will decode a beginning of 4th grade level text with 85% accuracy as measured by running records and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.3 Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)): Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level text with 75% accuracy as measured by curriculum based assessments and teacher collected data, MLR.R.EA.12 Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)): Jack writes a 3 paragraph essay in 0 out of 5 opportunities. Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will write a 3 paragraph essay in 4 out of 5 opportunities as measured by work samples and teacher collected data. MLR.W.EA.3 Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)): Jack is able to add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 20% Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c) Progress: By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence. By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 85% accuracy as measured by work samples and teacher collect MLR.QR.EA.3

Service for each Measurable Goal

	measured by work samples and teacher collected	Special Education Services	Position Responsible	Location	Frequency	Duration
	MLR.QR.EA.3 Objective(s) required? □ Yes ⊠ No					Beginning and End Date
	By <u>date</u> , given <u>service</u> , <u>child's name</u> will <u>skill</u> as measured by evidence.	Specially Designed Instruction	Special Education	Special	5 hrs/week	10/15/2024-
		Reading	Teacher	Education		10/14/2025
		Specially Designed Instruction	Special Education	General/Special	2.5 hrs/week	10/15/2024-
	Writing	Teacher	Education		10/14/2025	
		Specially Designed Instruction	Special Education	Special	5 hrs/week	10/15/2024-
		Math	Teacher	Education		10/14/2025





Why is this noncompliant?

Academic

- C. Based on evaluative information in 4A, and how do they affect the child's invo
 - Reading decoding
 - Reading comprehension
 - Essay composition
 - Conventions (beginning capitalization)
 - Multi-digit addition/subtraction

These academic deficits impact Jack's a level writing and math assignments.

✓ Gap listed with no goal aligned

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently decoding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 74% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

Progress

Progress:

Progress:

By $\underline{\text{date}}$, given $\underline{\text{service}}$, $\underline{\text{child's name}}$ will $\underline{\text{skill}}$ as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will decode a

beginning of 4th grade level text with 85% accuracy as measured

by running records and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.3

Objective(s) required? \square Yes \boxtimes No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level

text with 75% accuracy as measured by curriculum based

assessments and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.12

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack writes a 3 paragraph essay in 0 out of 5 opportunities.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will write a 3

<u>paragraph</u> essay in 4 out of 5 opportunities as measured by work samples and teacher collected data. MLR.W.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is able to add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 20% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 85% accuracy as measured by work samples and teacher collected data.

MLR.QR.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Remember: **Each** distinctly measurable and persistent skill gap requires a present level and measurable goal.

Academic

- C. Based on evaluative information in 4A, what are the and how do they affect the child's invol
 - Reading decoding
 - Reading comprehension
 - **Essay composition**
 - Multi-digit addition/subtraction

These academic deficits impact Jack's al level writing and math assignments.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently decoding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 74% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will decode a

beginning of 4th grade level text with 85% accuracy as measured

by running records and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)):

Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Progress:

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level text with 75% accuracy as measured by curriculum based

assessments and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.12

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack writes a 3 paragraph essay in 0 out of 5 opportunities.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will write a 3

paragraph essay in 4 out of 5 opportunities as measured by work

samples and teacher collected data. MLR.W.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is able to add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 20% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

Progress:

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will add and subtract multi-digit numbers with regrouping with 85% accuracy as measured by work samples and teacher collected data.

MLR.QR.EA.3

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

Let's try another...





Let's Review...



Why is this noncompliant?

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Margaret is demonstrating reading skills at the 4th grade level.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 9/17/2022, given specially designed instruction, Margaret will demonstrate reading skills at the 5th grade level, as measured by data collection, teacher observation, work samples or similar. CITATION HERE

✓ Goal is not measurable



Instead...



Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)):

Margaret demonstrates reading fluency of 37% when presented with a 3rd grade reading passage.

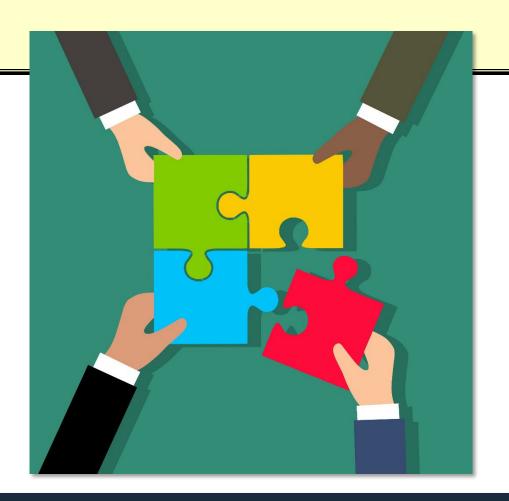
Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 9/17/2023, given specially designed instruction, Margaret will demonstrate reading fluency of 80% when presented with a 3rd grade reading passage. CITATION HERE



One more...





Let's Review...

How can we improve this goal?



Progress:

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(i) & (ii)):

Jack is able to read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension with 40% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension with 80% accuracy as measured by data collection. MLR.R.12.EA

Objective(s) required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

- √ Focus on one skill
- ✓ Goal written based on skill gap not copied from standard



Instead...



Progress:

Present Levels of Academic Performance (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(a)(j) & (ii)):

Jack is currently answering comprehension questions regarding <u>a beginning</u> of 3rd grade level text with 50% accuracy.

Measurable Goal (MUSER IX.3.A.(1)(b) & (c)

By $\underline{\text{date}}$, given $\underline{\text{service}}$, $\underline{\text{child's name}}$ will $\underline{\text{skill}}$ as measured by evidence.

By 10/2025, given specially designed instruction, Jack will answer comprehension questions regarding a beginning of 4th grade level text with 75% accuracy as measured by <u>curriculum based</u> assessments and teacher collected data. MLR.R.EA.5

Objective(s) required? \square Yes \boxtimes No

By date, given service, child's name will skill as measured by evidence.

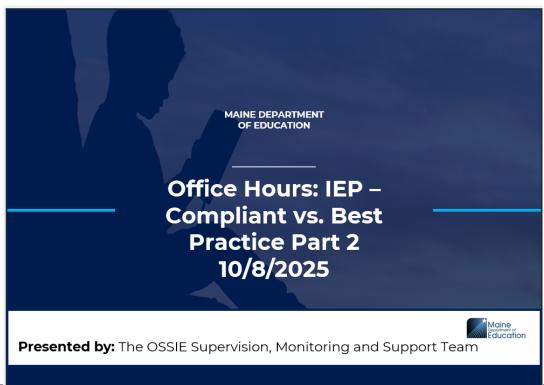






Join us for Part 2 of Compliant vs. Best Practice at our next office hours 10/8/2025







Resources





State Laws

1% Assessment

1% and Maine's Alternate Assessments Based on Alternate Academic Achievement Standards (AA-AAAS)

Assessment Page

Procedural Manual

Special Education required forms procedural manual.

Procedural Manual Download

State Law

In Maine, laws that are specific to the education of children with disabilities are set forth in three chapters of 20-A MRSA (Maine Revised Statutes Annotated).

- · Chapter 301. General Provisions
- · Chapter 303. Children with Disabilities
- <u>Chapter 304</u>. Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

State Regulation: Chapter 101/MUSER

Rule chapter that is specific to the education of children with disabilities in Maine Department of Education Regulations, Chapter 101, Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty (MUSER).

Procedural Safeguards

MUSER

- SAU Responsibility for FAPE
- MUSER Continuum for LRE
- Educational Surrogate Parent
- State Agency Clients

MUSER
PROCEDURAL MANUAL
PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS



https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/specialed/law



Supervision, Monitoring, and Support

SAU Resources for Supervision, Monitoring & Support

Meet the Team - The Maine DOE Supervision, Monitoring, & Support team is here to answer questions and assist schools & educators with special education information.

Professional Learning

Monitoring Process

Resources

Federal Requirements



https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/specialed/ supervision



Information Sheets Self-Assessment Form **Quick Reference Documents**



Information Sheets

- Abbreviated Day
- Disciplinary Removals
- Communities Without Schools
- Initial Evaluation Timeline
- Least Restrictive Environment
- Parentally-Placed Students
- Task Timeline
- Written Notice
- Sample IEP Meeting Checklist
- Sample Teacher IEP Input Form



SAU & CDS Resources

- Letter of Notification SAU
- Letter of Notification CWS
- Letter of Notification CDS
- Cohort Instruction Email
- 2025-2026 Sample Self-
- Assessment Form
- Services Provided Form
- Extended School Year v. Year-
- Long Programming Documentation Requirements



Quick Reference Checklists

- IEP Quick Reference Checklist
- Adverse Effect Form
- Speech Language Eligibility Form
- Specific Learning Disability Eligibility Form
- Summary of Performance
- Written Notice Quick Reference Checklist



Regional Programs Resources

- Letter of Notification
- Approval Grid
- Service Log
- Annual Update Form



https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/specialed/ supervision/resources



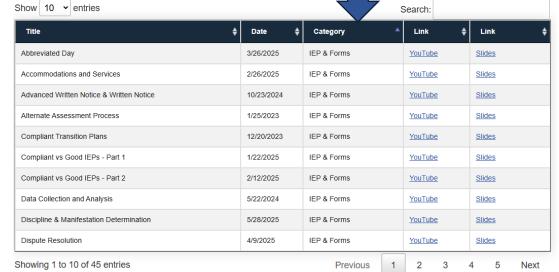
Professional Learning Recordings

View more recordings

Click header to sort by category

Re urces for Professional Learning

Use search bar to find resources within a specific calcory or topic area to filter content.





https://www.maine.gov/doe/specialservices/professionallearning





2025-26 Professional Development Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	TOPIC/DESCRIPTION	REGISTRATION LINK		
Wednesday 9/10/25 3:00-4:00	Resources	Recording coming soon		
Wednesday 9/24/25 3:00-4:00	Compliant versus Good IEPs Developing a Strong IEP Part 1			
Wednesday 10/8/25 3:00-4:00	Compliant versus Good IEPs Developing a Strong IEP Part 2	Compliant vs Good IEPs Part 2 Registration Link		
Wednesday 10/15/25 9:00-11:00	IEP Training	IEP Training Registration Link		
Wednesday 10/22/25 3:00-4:00	Stress, Behavior and the Brain Presented by: Bear Shea	Stress, Behavior and the Brain Registration Link		
Thursday 10/30/25 9:00-10:30	Post-Secondary Transition Planning	Post-Secondary Transition Planning		
Wednesday 11/12/25 3:00-4:00	Inclusion Presented by: Tracy Whitlock	Inclusion Registration Link		
Wednesday 12/10/25 3:00-4:00	Part C to Part B Transition	Part C to Part B Transition Registration Link		

on

2025-26 Professional Development Schedule (cont.)

<u>DATE</u>	TOPIC/DESCRIPTION	REGISTRATION LINK		
Wednesday 1/14/26 3:00-4:00	Alternate Assessments Guest Speaker: Mechelle Ganglefinger	Alternate Assessment Registration Link		
Wednesday 1/28/26 3:00-4:00	ILAP and LAU Plan 101 Presented By: The Office of Teaching and Learning	ILAP and LAU Plan 101 Registration Link		
Wednesday 2/11/26 3:00-4:00	McKenney Vento 101 Presented By: Signe Lynch	McKenney Vento 101 Registration Link		
Wednesday 2/25/26 3:00-4:00	Data Collection	Data Collection Registration Link		
Wednesday 3/11/26 3:00-4:00	Transition from CDS to Public School Guest Speaker: Lori Whittemore	Transition from CDS to Public School		
Wednesday 3/25/26 3:00-4:00	Abbreviated Day	Abbreviated Day Registration <u>Link</u>		
Wednesday 4/8/26 3:00-4:00	Special Education Law for General Education Teachers Guest Speaker: Leigh Lardieri	Special Education Law for General Education Teachers Registration Link		
Wednesday 5/13/26 3:00-4:00	IEP Case Study	Case Study Registration Link		
Wednesday 5/27/26 3:00-4:00	Discipline & Manifestation Determination	Discipline and Manifestation Determination Registration Link		

IEP & Related Forms

Educator and Administrator Resources

Family & Caregiver Resources



Educator and Administrator Resources

1% Maine's Alternative Assessment

Serving Multilingual Learners with Disabilities

Maine Care Documentation

- <u>IEP Documentation Training One Video June 2,</u> 2021, Passcode: %r^KpD51
- Presentation Slides
- <u>IEP Guidance on IEP Documentation May 2021</u> (<u>PDF</u>)
- The MaineCare In Education Presentation (PowerPoint) explains how to access MaineCare services in schools

Individualized Education Program (IEP) & Related Forms

These are the forms that the Maine Department of Education Special Services team requires, forms that are for local use as required, and forms for local use that are optional.

- IEP Form
- 7-Day Waiver



Family & Caregiver Resources

Special Education Glossaries

Arabic | French | Khmer | Mandarin | Portuguese | Somali | Spanish | Vietnamese

1% & Maine's Alternative Assessment

Maine Parent Federation

Early Learning Foundational Skills

Special Education Surrogate Parent Program

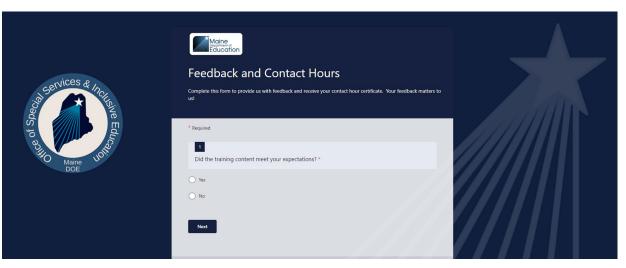
The Special Education Surrogate Parent
Program was established to provide educational
surrogate parents to children with disabilities
whenever the natural parents or guardian of a child
with a disability cannot be identified or located, or
when the child is in the custody of the state.
Educational surrogate parents have all the rights of
natural parents for special education matters, e.g.
permission for evaluation and placement, to release
information and to request an educational hearing.
The primary goal of the educational surrogate



https://www.maine.gov/doe/specialservices/resources



Professional Learning Feedback and Contact Hour Form.



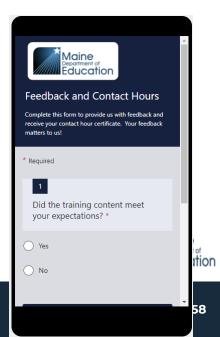
Use the link to complete the form on your computer **OR**

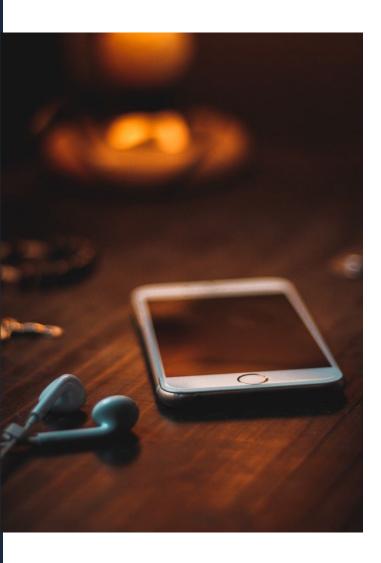
Use the QR code to complete the form on your mobile device

https://forms.office.com/g/by472QQLDJ











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Colette Sullivan – Federal Programs Coordinator colette.sullivan@maine.gov

Jennifer Gleason – Special Education Consultant jennifer.gleason@maine.gov

Karlie Thibodeau – Special Education Consultant karlie.l.thibodeau@maine.gov

Ashley Satre – Special Education Consultant ashley.satre@maine.gov

Julie Pelletier – Secretary Associate julie.pelletier@maine.gov



