

*"Making connections
to achieve systems change"*

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e-News

North Central Regional Resource Center

NCSEAM Parent/Family Surveys

The National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM) has developed a survey system that States can use to assess family participation in early intervention and special education for the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR). The survey system, which is available to address both Part C and Part B performance indicators, incorporates such issues as legal requirements regarding family involvement, theoretical perspectives and models of family involvement and empirical studies on parent relationships in relation to the education of their child with a disability. The NCSEAM surveys have been extensively field-tested and validated through application of a rigorous process of item analysis methodologies. These surveys, along with related information and services available from NCSEAM can be viewed by clicking on the following link: [NCSEAM Surveys](#).

Pre-Session to National Research Center on Learning Disabilities Conference

The North Central Regional Resource Center is planning a pre-conference session for the February conference to be hosted by the National Research Center on Learning Disabilities in Kansas City. The pre-session is scheduled for February 7, and the conference is scheduled for February 8-10. The pre-session will be dedicated to regional discussion of salient issues for Response-to-Intervention (RTI) implementation, including:

1. Foundational RTI principles and the range of diversity within RTI practices.
2. Regional networking to ensure systems alignment with federal and state requirements.

3. The changing role and functions of intellectual assessment.
4. Practices for requesting independent evaluation.
5. State incorporation of well-defined SLD exclusionary criteria in rules and technical assistance, e.g. criteria for English language learners (ELL).
6. Networking with agencies and organizations that employ IQ scores for service access, entitlement, etc.
7. Post-secondary access and transition for students served within RTI systems.
8. Criteria for rate of progress, performance discrepancy (student vs. grade-level), and instructional need for special education qualification.
9. Alternate funding strategies.
10. Guided state team planning.

For more information concerning the conference and pre-session, please contact either Tom Delaney at del0003@umn.edu, or Dr. John Heskett at john.heskett@charter.net.

Part C Underserved Populations: State Outreach Efforts

Contrary to the widely documented overidentification of certain racial/ethnic groups in IDEA Part B programs, state Part C programs data indicates that this diverse subgroup is underserved. States are making efforts to reach these traditionally underserved populations by networking with other state and local systems. As an ongoing effort to inform work in other states about state Part C programs, the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NADSE) recently published a document entitled, [Part C Underserved Populations: State Outreach Efforts](#). This document looks at how several states are using innovative strategies in reaching and serving infant/toddler populations and their families that are traditionally underserved by Part C. To download a copy of this document, click on the link above.

37th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools

The Phi Delta Kappa and Gallup Organization recently published its 37th annual survey of the public's attitudes toward public schools. This survey assesses the public's opinions of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, the public schools, and other issues related to education. Click on the following link to access the survey results: [PDK 37th Annual Survey](#).

North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC) Information Services is Now Available Online

We are pleased to announce that information requests can now be submitted online in addition to submitting requests by e-mail or telephone. To place an information request online, click [here](#) or go to our web site, www.northcentral-rrc.org, and click on the Information Request link in the main menu.

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