Date: September 4, 2024

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

Route to: Directors of Special Education

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Educational Services

Deadline: October 11, 2024

IDEA-B State Fiscal Year 2024 Final Report – Timelines and Information

The State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Final Report will be available on Friday, September 4, 2024 in the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant system (EWEG). Each Local Educational Agency (LEA), Charter School, Renaissance School Project and State Agency that obligated and expended IDEA-B funds during the 2023-2024 school year is required to complete this final report of actual expenditures. The report may be accessed by logging into the EWEG system. Attachment A contains directions for completing the report.

Final reports must be submitted by October 11, 2024. Any delay in the submission of the SFY 2024 IDEA-B Final Report will impede an LEA's application of carryover funds and/or overpayments, as well as the LEA's ability to use unexpended SFY 2024 IDEA-B funds.

The final reports contain financial information including, but not limited to, total expenditures, funds paid to date, unexpended funds, overpayments, and refunds to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). This information will allow the EWEG system to close out the grant period by providing LEAs with an exact accounting of the funds as they relate to: 1) the amount of funds that remain to be paid; 2) the amount of funds that were overpaid and will need to be subtracted (offset) from unexpended balances; and 3) the amount of unexpended funds that can be carried into SFY 2025.

Important reminders:

- All SFY 2024 IDEA-B obligations must be expended prior to Tuesday, October 1, 2024.
- The Excess Cost and Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Compliance requirement will be assessed in the SFY 2024 IDEA-B Final Report. An updated Excess Cost worksheet has been added to the report. Please follow the instructions provided.
- Any LEA that was required to use 15 percent of its SFY 2024 IDEA-B funds for Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS) must budget any remaining amount for CCEIS in an SFY 2025 amendment, regardless of whether the LEA continues to be identified as significantly disproportionate. Funds made available on July 1 to the LEA have a period of obligation of 27 months. When an LEA is required to use 15 percent of its IDEA-B funds for CCEIS, the funds may not be used for any other purpose. Any funds set aside for CCEIS that have not been spent or obligated properly by the end of the period of availability must be returned to the U.S. Department of Education.
- If required, amendments to the current SFY 2025 budget to include carryover and/or overpayments should be completed within 30 days of the approval of the SFY 2024 IDEA-B Final Report. Any funds identified as carryover and/or overpayment on the "Expenditure Summary" tab within the final report will not be visible until an amendment to the approved SFY 2025 IDEA-B application is created. Please review Attachment B for further details on carryover and overpayment funds. LEAs that do not see the correct amounts in the SFY 2025 amendment should contact eweghelp@doe.nj.gov for assistance.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind LEAs of the importance of accurate data reporting. Data submitted to NJ SMART for the October 15th SID Management Fall Survey will be used in the calculation of the SFY 2026 IDEA-B grant formula allocations. Please visit the NJ SMART Resources & Trainings page for more information on reporting requirements.

For any questions concerning the information contained in this memorandum, please contact the County Special Education Specialist or Janelle Monin, Office of Special Education, at Janelle.Monin@doe.nj.gov. General questions can also be sent via OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group