The FY19 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grants have been released. The IDEA grant team would like to share a few specific items/reminders as you prepare for the FY19 grant cycle. Please share this information with the cooperative and district staff members who work directly with the IDEA flow-through and preschool grants.

**July 1 IDEA Grant Start Date**
We encourage each cooperative and district to submit a substantially approvable IDEA grant application on or before July 1, 2018 to receive the earliest start date.

**Creating the FY19 Grant**
- The FY19 IDEA grant application will not appear in IWAS until the district/cooperative checks “Yes” to creating a new application.
  
  **This Program Allows you to have multiple projects.**
  **Would you like to create a new project for the current year?Yes**

- When completing the Abstract page, please summarize the cooperative/district plan for using the FY19 IDEA grant funds to provide services to eligible students. These grant funded activities should be reflected in the quarterly/monthly periodic performance reports.

**New in the FY19 IDEA Grant Application**
- CEIS Reporting page – Districts that used IDEA funds for CEIS purposes in the prior application must select the allocation year of funds were used for CEIS purposes.
- MOE Eligibility page – The page was streamlined (deleted a wordy section), the completion process has not changed.
- The grants now include the option for uploading a comma delimited file in the **initial** application Budget Detail page. Please refer to the upload process instructions and read them thoroughly before attempting to utilize this timesaving function in FY 2019. If you have questions when completing initial FY 2019 applications, please contact the program consultants for your respective grant areas.
- The grant application will now pre-populate the Program Contact information in the Applicant Information page. The pre-populated information will be a duplication from the prior year’s grant application. Please verify and update if any information has changed.
- Program Risk Assessment pages - The radio buttons on the PRA tabs: General Information, Management Systems, Performance History, Compliance, Implementation, and ISBE Specific -- will be pre-populated for FY 2019 based on responses from the FY 2018 grant application. If the text fields contained data, they will have to be manually entered. All of the fields should be verified and updated if a response has changed.

**Maintenance of Effort (MOE)**
MOE Compliance – The MOE compliance worksheets were mailed to state-approved directors of special education in March. Please contact Pam Jurkoshek (pjurkosh@isbe.net) and your grant coordinator with any questions or requests for assistance in resolving cooperative and district MOE issues.

- Do NOT let a negative MOE delay the submission of an otherwise substantially approvable IDEA grant and do work toward the early resolution of any shortfall.
• Districts and cooperatives with negative MOE comparisons should work to resolve those issues by July 1, 2018. Our contractual MOE consultant is only available on a limited basis after September 30.

MOE Eligibility – Please use the most recent complete fiscal year (FY17) compared to the budgeted/anticipated budget for FY19 to select one MOE option that reflects how the district will maintain local spending. The FY17 net and per capita amounts needed to complete the MOE Eligibility page are located on the MOE compliance worksheets.

**IDEA Proportionate Share**
IDEA proportionate share expenditures must include direct/indirect services to eligible students with individualized services plans (ISPs) as determined through the timely and meaningful consultation process.

• Supplies, material, and equipment budgeted must be attached to direct/consultation services to eligible students and those items remain the property of the public school district.

• Professional development activities for teachers working with students with ISPs must be attached to direct/consultation service for those eligible students.

**Excess Cost**
We anticipate the FY19 excess cost system will be in place by September/October. We will send a listserv announcement when the FY19 IDEA excess cost is available.

**Instructions**
The FY19 instructions booklet and resource documents are posted on the IDEA grant webpage at [https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IDEA-Part-B-Grant-Program-Information.aspx](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IDEA-Part-B-Grant-Program-Information.aspx).

**Technical Assistance Questions**
The grant applications do include instruction links in the grants which are helpful for technical problems. In addition, the ISBE Helpdesk staff members are available at 217/558-3600 for technical difficulties encountered during the grant application process, e.g. passwords, adding new users.

Please contact your grant coordinators with programmatic questions.

Tammy Greco – tgrego@isbe.net
Felicia Malloy – fmalloy@isbe.net

Telephone – (217) 782-5589