

# ISBE State Performance Plan (SPP) Indicator 8: Parent Involvement FAQ

## General Information Questions



### 1. What is the SPP Indicator 8 Parent Survey?



The SPP Indicator 8 Parent Survey is conducted each year to gather information from a representative sample of parents with a child receiving special education services to determine the degree to which schools throughout the state are facilitating parent involvement in their child's education.



### 2. Why does ISBE collect this data?



This data is required by the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and is submitted in the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report each year. The data is used by the state to measure parent involvement for children receiving special education services across Illinois and look to improve efforts within districts to increase overall parent involvement.



### 3. Who conducts the survey?



ISBE partners with Measurement Incorporated to collect survey responses. Measurement Inc. collects contact information submitted by districts that is used to distribute secure links and Survey IDs for parents/guardians to complete the survey online. A paper copy is also available upon request. Surveys can be completed in either English or Spanish.



### 4. How are surveys conducted?



Surveys are primarily completed online through a secure link and Survey ID provided by the vendor Measurement Incorporated. The vendor collects up to two email addresses per student that have access to the same survey link and ID. The system will not allow more than one response per student. Measurement Inc. will provide paper copies upon request.



### 5. Are the surveys anonymous?



Yes. Personally identifiable information is not shared with ISBE or individual districts.

## Parent-Specific Information Questions



### 6. Where is my Survey ID?



Survey IDs are mailed to families. If you need your seven-digit Survey ID, please complete the [2026 Special Education Parent Survey ID Request form](#).



### 7. What is the timeline for the Parent Survey?



The survey window opens on or around Jan. 10 and closes on or around May 15 each year.



### 8. Can parents/guardians access the survey more than once?



The survey can only be completed once with each unique ID provided. If the survey is not completed immediately, it will be saved and available to be completed on a later date.

## District-Specific Information Questions



### 9. What districts are involved each year?



Districts across the state are surveyed once every six years. A portion of parents from Chicago District #299 are surveyed annually. You can see the district cycle lists here:

- [District Cycle List 2026-2032](#)
- [CPS Cycle List 2026-2032](#)



### 10. What information is shared?



Survey responses are aggregated and shared with ISBE and districts each July through a report generated by Measurement Inc.

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### 11. What happens to the data from the survey?

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Data is combined and shared with ISBE in various reports by Measurement Inc. ISBE calculates a percentage from the [*number of respondent parents who report schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities*] divided by [*the total number of respondent parents of children with disabilities*] multiplied by 100. This calculation is then reported in the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report each year.

The aggregated data is also shared with districts through a report. If a district has fewer than 10 respondents, it is considered too small of a sample, and the district will only receive access to the statewide report to guarantee parent anonymity. If a district has 10 or more respondents, it will receive a report summarizing the survey results for their particular district.

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### 12. What is included in the district survey results report?

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Please see Measurement Inc.'s [Understanding the Indicator 8 Report](#) guide for specific information on how the data is aggregated and analyzed.

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### 13. What are the most effective ways to promote the survey?

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ISBE encourages the following strategies to promote the Parent Survey:

- Providing parent/guardian email addresses to Measurement Inc. for email reminders;
- Ensuring all relevant school staff understand the timeline, purpose, and importance of the Indicator 8 Parent Survey;
- Informing parents through meetings (e.g., IEP, etc.);
- Obtaining assistance from parent leaders and coordinators;
- Posting large flyers in strategic locations; emailing flyers;
- Making frequent announcements on the district website and/or social media sites;
- Sending text messages to parents/guardians of students with IEPs;
- Following up regularly with all school staff to promote the survey;
- Using resources from the ISBE Indicator 8 webpage;
- Providing training to school staff on effective parent engagement in special education;
- Working directly with specific school staff members who need support working with families;
- Analyzing data to inform your plans to increase the parents' response rate to the Indicator 8 Survey.

## **Resources**

- [ISBE SPP Indicator 8: Parent Involvement](#)
- [Family Matters: Parent Training & Information Center](#)

Please contact the Special Education Department at 217-782-5589 or Measurement Inc. at [ISBEParentSurvey@MeasInc.com](mailto:ISBEParentSurvey@MeasInc.com) or toll-free at 877-881-7077 with any questions.