Illinois State Board of Education

LEA Determinations Stakeholder Meeting

December 1, 2023

Equity • Quality • Collaboration • Community

Introductions

- Iliana El-Khailani
  - Executive Director of Specialized Instruction
- Barbara Moore
  - Director of Special Education Operational Support
- Kristina Holloway
  - SPP/APR Coordinator

Stakeholders

- Our LEA Determinations stakeholder group includes:
  - Superintendents
  - Directors of Special Education
  - Special Education Coordinators
  - Parents
  - State Advisory Council members
  - ISBE staff (Grants, Early Childhood, and Data)
  - Transition Coordinators
  - Technical Assistant Project Staff/Coordinators

Agenda

- Overview of required components of LEA Determinations
- Review ISBE's current LEA Determinations process
- Discussion of potential changes
- Cyclical Monitoring *(coming 2024-2025 school year)*

Required Components of LEA Determinations

- Under Part B of IDEA, a State must consider the following factors when making an annual determination of each LEA:
  - Performance on compliance indicators
    - 4b (Suspension/Expulsion)
    - 9 (Disproportionate Representation)
    - 10 (Disproportionate Representation of Specific Disability Categories)
    - 11 (Child Find)
    - 12 (Early Childhood Transition)
    - 13 (Secondary Transition)
  - Valid, reliable and timely data
  - Correction of identified noncompliance
  - Relevant audit findings
- States are encouraged to also include *results* indicator data
  - 1 (Graduation), 2 (Drop Out), 3 (Assessment), 5 (Educational Environments K-12), 6 (Preschool Environments), 7 (Preschool Outcomes), 8 (Parent Involvement Survey) and 14 (Post School Outcomes)

ISBE's Current LEA Determination Process

- Currently ISBE uses a balanced approach for LEA Determinations including both compliance and results indicators
  - Results Indicators: 1, 5a and 6a
  - Compliance Indicators 4b, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13
  - Single audit findings
  - Timely correction of non-compliance
- ISBE issues LEA Determinations annually in September
- Currently ISBE utilizes an n-size of 5 for Indicators 1, 5a and 6a. This was implemented two years ago.
- ISBE also implemented utilizing an n-size of 5 for Indicators 11, 12, and 13, but upon further review it was removed this year due to updated guidance from OSEP.
- ISBE does not currently include valid, reliable and timely data, but will need to add this to the LEA Determinations process.

Discussion Items

- What data components should be included to ensure **valid**, **reliable** and **timely** data?
  - Many states are utilizing the following items:
    - Child Count
    - Personnel Report
    - Indicator 11 (Child Find)
    - Indicator 12 (Early Childhood Transition)
    - Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition)
  - Other ideas?

Discussion Items (cont)

- Does ISBE need to change the n-size for Indicators 1, 5a and/or 6a?
  - Currently the n-size is 5, which was implemented 2 years ago
  - Implementing an n-size also impacts LEAs who do meet the state target
  - We could remove the n-size and explore grouping LEAs by size (e.g.; small, medium, large, extra-large) and using the percent to assign point values (e.g.; Top 1%-10%=4 points, Top 11%-25%=3 points, Top 26%-50%=2 points, Bottom 51%-75%=1 point, Bottom 75%-100%=0 points)

Discussion Items (cont.)

- We could increase the n-size to 10 or 15 for Indicator 1
  - No n-size =486 LEAs included, 37% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 5=394 LEAs included, 37% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 10=274 LEAs included, 39% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 15=203 LEAs included, 60% of LEAs meet state target
  - 33 is the average number of leavers for 2021-2022
  - 118 LEAs have more than 33 leavers and 367 have 33 or less leavers
- We could increase the n-size to 10 or 15 for Indicator 5a
  - No n-size=864 LEAs included, 54% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 5=863 LEAs included, 54% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 10=847 LEAs included, 53% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 15=832 LEAs included, 53% of LEAs meet state target

Discussion Items (cont.)

- We could increase the n-size to 10 or 15 for Indicator 6a
  - No n-size=732 LEAs included, 51% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 5=619 LEAs included, 53% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 10=464 LEAs included, 55% of LEAs meet state target
  - N-size of 15=370 LEAs included, 55% of LEAs meet state target
- If an LEA meets/exceeds the state target, but does not meet the n-size should we add a business rule that they would receive the points for this indicator?

Cyclical Monitoring

- Cyclical Monitoring
  - Beginning SY 2024-25, ISBE will be implementing a cyclical monitoring process in order to be in compliance with the General Supervision requirements identified in the OSEP General Supervision Guidance Document issued July 2023.
  - We are currently exploring what this process will look like.
  - We know that LEAs who are chosen for the cycle year will be required to complete a self-assessment document and submit documents/files for review.
  - Additional information will be forthcoming as we finalize what this process will look like and finalize the cycle list.
  - We hope that you are willing to continue to work with us to provide stakeholder input as we design this process.

Questions and Next Steps

- Questions?
- Next Steps
  - You will receive a survey later today regarding the items we discussed. Your feedback will help us in moving forward in our processes.
  - We will set up another meeting in the coming weeks to review the feedback and to discuss the cyclical monitoring process further.
- If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.