



Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education (OSE)

OSE Update

August 2018

What's New?

Alt-Shift

- Alt+Shift is beginning site-based training and implementation support with sites that have submitted applications to work with our project. Our work includes three Assistive Technology Symposium sites, three Foundations of Communication sites, two Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) sites, one Foundations of Math site, and two Foundations of Math: Teaching Students with Significant Disabilities sites.
- Additional local training efforts include Foundations of Math in St. Sault Marie (open to out-of-district) (begins August 22), Enhancing Mathematics Instruction for Students With Learning Difficulties in Troy (begins August 22), and Enhancing Mathematics Instruction for Students With Learning Difficulties in Shephard (open to out-of-district) (begins October 4).
- **Accessible Materials Made Right** courses 1-5 are now available on [EduPaths](http://edupaths.org) (edupaths.org). Courses 6-7, the final courses in the sequence, will be available soon.

Publications

- ***Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) Handbook Update***
The Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council approved an LICC Handbook. The objective is to provide information to LICC members about the purpose and function of an LICC, the role of the members, guidance for operating LICC meetings, and expectations for family membership and participation.
The Handbook also contains the following Appendices:
 - Frequently used acronyms
 - An LICC contact form
 - Guided questions for data review
 - Taking involvement to the next level
 - ResourcesThe Handbook can be found at https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_LICC_Handbook_Final_625578_7.pdf.
- ***Early On Procedural Safeguards Protecting Families' Rights***



A memo regarding *Early On Procedural Safeguards Protecting Families' Rights* was sent to *Early On* Coordinators and Special Education Directors June 26, 2018. The purpose of this memo was to inform local *Early On* service areas about the revision of procedural safeguard documents and to provide guidance regarding the use of these documents. The information in the memo pertains to all children birth to three receiving Part C early intervention services, including Michigan Mandatory Special Education services prior to their enrollment in Preschool Special Education. These documents are posted on the Michigan Department of Education's [Early On website](#) under "State Resources" and the Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency Early On Training and Technical Assistance ([EOT&TA website](#)).

Statewide Autism and Resources Training (START)

- START will launch its Early Childhood, K-12, and Building Your Future (BYF) intensive training series in September.
 - The host sites for these trainings are: Shiawassee Regional Education Service District (ESD)/Baker College of Owosso (Early Childhood), Jackson ISD (Building Your Future), and Oakland Schools (K12).
 - Following up on last year's K12 Intensive Training Series, K12 IT Year 2 modules will be hosted by Van Buren ISD and Macomb ISD.
- Visit the START website to read our [quarterly newsletter](#) (<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-connecting-newsletter-213.htm>).

Monitoring

- Virtual monitoring was conducted in the spring with 38 districts. The OSE thanks those districts for their feedback which helped improve Catamaran to facilitate future virtual monitoring visits.
- Additional virtual B-4 monitoring will take place this fall.
- This OSE will be working with ISD personnel to begin ISD lead monitoring for indicators B-9 and 10. These will be a combination of onsite and virtual visits.
- B-13 data will be released in September based on the data collection activity that took place in the spring. District and student level corrective actions will be issued as needed for identified noncompliance.

Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) Program

- Please let Dana Billings know of **Medicaid staff/personnel changes** in your district. You can contact her at billingsd1@michigan.gov or 517-335-2250 with information about who has left, who has arrived, their title/role and contact information.



- To discuss **Medicaid SBS Policy**, contact Kevin Bauer at the Medicaid agency: BauerK2@michigan.gov or 517-284-1197
- To discuss **Medicaid reimbursement for your district**, contact Amy Kanter at the Medicaid agency: KanterA@michigan.gov or 517-241-4240
- **Meetings in 2018-2019** of the ISD Medicaid Implementers are:
 - December 11th, 2018 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 - March 12th, 2019 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

All these meetings are at Ingham ISD with phone and web access for those not attending in person. Contact Dana Billings for more information at billingsd1@michigan.gov

Low Incidence Outreach (LIO)

- LIO has a Facebook page; new updates and events are posted daily. We will be providing outreach through regional trainings throughout the state in the following areas for Visual Impairment: Braille, Cortical Visual Impairment, Technology, and Independent Living Skills. The LIO Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) consultants are in the process of identifying and developing teams for statewide trainings to help support parents and professionals. LIO will be providing an online American Sign Language class for professionals this fall and have added information and resources for the Expanded Core Curriculum for students who are D/HH to our website.
- **For information on what LIO can do for you, visit our website: <https://mdelio.org>**
- Camp Tuhsmeheeta is in full swing of summer camping activities. Located in Greenville, Michigan within 300 acres of wooded paradise, we offer events all year round. The camp provides a fun, active, and safe learning environment for school-age children and was specifically designed for children who are Blind/Visually Impaired. There are also many opportunities for events and retreats for professionals and families. For more information: <https://camptuhsmeheeta.org/>

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)

Parent Engagement Project

- The Parent Engagement Project (PEP) is entering its second year with Mecosta Intermediate School District (ISD). Last year's focus was behavior. This year's focus is transition with some focused outreach for birth to five-year-olds.



- This is the first year of PEP with Macomb ISD. The focus is communication and the individualized education program (IEP).
- If your district or ISD is interested in collaborating with MAF on a parent engagement project, please contact Kelly Orginski at kelly@michiganallianceforfamilies.org.

Accessibility

- Like many organizations and schools in Michigan, MAF had an Office of Civil Rights (OCR) complaint file against it regarding the accessibility of its website.
 - While we had started to address the issues with our website prior to the complaint, we entered into a resolution agreement with OCR.
 - We have implemented several policy changes and made technical revisions to our website to bring it into compliance. We are in the final stages of remediating our documents and once those are complete, we will be AAA compliant.
 - It is an ongoing effort, but we are committed to ensuring our information is accessible to all users. We send encouragement to those going through the same process!

Staff Updates

- MAF is pleased to welcome **Diana Schmiegel** to our staff. Diana is the regional parent mentor for Arenac, Bay, and Saginaw counties.
- **Kanika Littleton** has started her new role as a Mentor Support Supervisor. She was previously a regional parent mentor in Livingston and Oakland counties.
- **Lisa Casper**, the regional parent mentor for the western Upper Peninsula, has left to take another job.
- Kanika and Lisa's regional parent mentor positions will be filled in late August. Until then, if you have questions or need assistance, please call 1-800-552-4821.

Early Childhood

- ***Michigan Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) receives Determination of Meets Requirements***
Michigan Part C of the IDEA (known in Michigan as *Early On*[®]), serving infants and toddlers from birth to age three with disabilities or developmental disabilities, has received its 2018 Determination from the federal Office of Special Education Programs. There are four categories in the federal



determination process: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention. The Michigan Part C determination this year earned the highest rating of "Meets Requirements."

Determinations were made based on compliance data, monitoring information, and child outcomes data. The child outcomes data were reviewed for completeness, anomalies, how Michigan compared to other states and its progress data over the two most recent years available.

Part C aligns with Strategy 1.1 under Goal 1 of the Top 10 in 10 and has policies that promote engagement of families from a child's birth that encourage optimal development of children prior to kindergarten. Michigan, working in partnership with the intermediate school districts, is pleased to celebrate this achievement.

- **State Funding for *Early On***

The recently signed State School Aid Act PA 265 of 2018) includes a new line item, Section 54d, providing \$5,000,000 in state funding for *Early On*! We are extremely excited to share this news with you and to celebrate this accomplishment toward enhanced *Early On* services for Michigan's infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. This provides a great opportunity to analyze specific parts of local systems, identify areas for improvement, and focus on system level improvements. Use of these funds must meet the requirements of the [Early On Michigan State Plan](#). These funds must be used to increase *Early On* services and resources; ensuring that appropriate levels and types of services are delivered by qualified personnel, based on the individual needs of the children and their families.

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Alt+Shift

- [Emergent Literacy for Students With Significant Disabilities](https://www.altshift.education/event/emergent-literacy-students-significant-disabilities)
(<https://www.altshift.education/event/emergent-literacy-students-significant-disabilities>)
 - **September 24-25, 2018 (wait list)** – St. Johns, MI
- [Mathematics: Reaching All Learners Together](https://www.altshift.education/event/mathematics-reaching-all-learners-together)
(<https://www.altshift.education/event/mathematics-reaching-all-learners-together>)
 - **October 22, 2019** – Lansing, MI
- Conventional Literacy for Students With Significant Disabilities
 - **February 25-27, 2019** – Romulus, MI



- Save the date (registration not yet open)

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)

- Understanding IEPs With Kelly Orginski
 - **August 25, 2018** (10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) – Methodist Children’s Home Society, Redford, MI

We are planning and developing various learning opportunities, webinars, and other events for 2018-2019 and will post the information to our [MAF event calendar](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/) (<http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/>).

Be sure to view our selection of free [on-demand webinars](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/webinar/) (<http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/webinar/>).

Michigan’s Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MIBLSI)

Please visit the [MIBLSI events page](https://miblsi.org/events) (<https://miblsi.org/events>) for more information on upcoming professional development events.

- Student Risk Screening Scale (SRSS) Coordinator Training
Schools are asked to conduct universal screening using the SRSS coming off the MIBLSI Intervention Systems training or Promoting Positive School Climate (PPSC) Tier 2 Behavior Supports training.
 - **August 30, 2018** – SpringHill Suites by Marriott Lansing, 111 S. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing, MI

Statewide Autism and Resources Training (START)

- [Peer-to-Peer Statewide Training](https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-events-49.htm) (<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-events-49.htm>)
 - **October 16-17, 2018** – Crowne Plaza Lansing West, 925 Creyts Road, Lansing, MI

Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) Program

- **The Statewide Medicaid Conference will be held August 16-17 at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire.** Medicaid covers the costs of registration and meals during the conference within reason. It is recommended you send at least one member of your staff to this important learning opportunity that features the Executive Director of the National Alliance for Medicaid in Education, John Hill and presentations by many ISD Medicaid coordinators who are sharing their tips for efficiency, staff compliance and lessons learned. Conference Registration opened in May. For more details go to:



<https://events.mphi.org/school-based-services-conference/>

- National Alliance for Medicaid in Education Annual Conference will be held October 14-17, 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland. For more details go to: www.MedicaidForEducation.org