

## UPDATES

### Office of Special Education Michigan Department of Education December 2016

#### **WHAT'S NEW?**

##### **Monitoring**

- The monitoring team conducted 17 on-site visits for Significant Disproportionality in October. There will be findings of noncompliance for 12 of those districts issued in the January CIMS Workbook.
- January will be another "major" release of the CIMS Workbook. Major releases are issued to every district and must be acknowledged. Those are September, January, and May for 2016-2017. The minor releases are issued in each other month of the academic year to select districts.

##### **Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) Program**

- **Meetings in 2016-17** of the ISD Medicaid Implementers are:
  - Tuesday, January 10, 2017;
  - Wednesday, March 22, 2017; and
  - Tuesday, June 13, 2017.
- All these meetings are at Ingham ISD with phone and web access for those not able to attend in person. Please encourage your staff to send any agenda items to Jane Reagan ([ReaganJ@michigan.gov](mailto:ReaganJ@michigan.gov)) by December 16<sup>th</sup>
- For any Medicaid **staff changes** that have occurred in your ISD, please inform Jane Reagan ASAP so she may **update her email list**

##### **Low Incidence Outreach (LIO)**

- **Visually Impaired (VI) & Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) Consortia for Teacher Preparation**
  - Michigan continues to experience a shortage of certified teachers for students who are Blind/Visually Impaired or students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing. To meet this need, Michigan Department of Education coordinates a consortium of universities providing classes online to earn an endorsement in either of these disciplines. To date, the VI consortium has graduated 3 students who earned the SK (visual impairment) endorsement. One student has graduated from the DHH consortium program and has earned the SL (deaf hard of hearing) endorsement. Each

program has 10-12 students currently enrolled with 3-6 expected to graduate in the 2017 calendar year. The state of Michigan reimburses up to 50% of consortium students' tuition costs. Please keep this program in mind when talking to staff about continuing education and future employment options.

<http://mictp.org/>

- **Michigan Regional Braille Challenge February 25, 2017**
  - The Braille Challenge® is an academic competition unlike any other. This two-stage contest is designed to motivate students who are blind to emphasize their study of Braille while rewarding their success with fun-filled, but challenging, local and national events. Any student with a visual impairment who reads Braille is eligible to participate in the preliminary Challenge contest event. [MDE-LIO Braille Challenge](#)

## Early Childhood

- **Office of Great Start, Office of Early Childhood Development and Family Education - *Early On*®** Contact: Vanessa Winborne, Part C Coordinator: [winbornev@michigan.gov](mailto:winbornev@michigan.gov)
- **Office of Auditor General Follow-up to Performance Audit** - The Office of Auditor General (OAG) is conducting a follow-up to the Performance Audit that took place resulting in a report that was published in November of 2013. This follow-up review checks on the completion of activities designated in the Michigan Department of Education response to the OAG material findings. The Follow-up Report is anticipated to be available early 2017.
- **Differentiated Monitoring and Support** - The federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has begun a new process called Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS). Through this process they determine types and intensity of technical assistance and monitoring for each state. Each state IDEA Part C system is given a designation of Universal, Targeted or Intensive in each of five categories. Designations of Universal and Targeted generally result in technical assistance provided through participation in topical cohort activities, webinars, conference calls with OSEP staff, emails and other electronic methods. Onsite monitoring is more likely for Intensive designations. Michigan Part C has been given the following designations:
  - Results – Targeted
  - Compliance – Universal
  - SSIP – Universal
  - Child Find – Targeted
  - Fiscal – Targeted

- **Office of Great Start, Office of Preschool and Out-of-School-Time Learning - Early Childhood Special Education** Contact: Lisa Wasacz, Part B Section 619 Coordinator: [wasaczL@michigan.gov](mailto:wasaczL@michigan.gov)
- Indicator B-6 Preschool Educational Environments - If you are interested in joining the preschool inclusion stakeholder workgroup, please email Lisa Wasacz at [wasaczL@michigan.gov](mailto:wasaczL@michigan.gov) to express your interest.
- Indicator B-7 Preschool Child Outcomes - If you are interested in hosting a training on preschool child outcomes and/or preschool child outcomes data, please contact Mark Kuipers at [MKuipers@ccresa.org](mailto:MKuipers@ccresa.org) to express your interest.
- Indicator B-12 Transition (IEP by age 3) - Data and related findings for FFY 14 and FFY 15 will be available in CIMS January 2017 workbook.

## **UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Low Incidence Outreach has many learning opportunities. Click on the title for more information.

- **December 9-10, 2016**

[Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment Skill Development Workshop](#)

Improve your interpretation skills in a two-day workshop presented by MDE-LIO. During the workshop, our team of presenters will provide specific skill instruction and participants will have a chance to engage in small group and partner practice. Presenters will also provide individual feedback designed to help educational interpreters improve skills assessed on the EIPA.

Okemos, Michigan

- **December 13, 2016**

[Regional On-Demand Braille Class](#)

This course is designed for beginners who have little or no knowledge of Braille.

Learn the Basics

- Learn the alphabet
- Learn punctuation and contractions
- Recognize formatting styles, like bold and italics
- Get introduced to the Nemeth Code for mathematics

The workshop will also show participants where to access instructional resources.

Bay City, Michigan

- **February 4, 2017**

[EIPA Video Conference: Broaden Your Understanding and Ability to Incorporate Non-Manual Markers Including Adverbs and Adjectives](#)

This workshop has a focus on non-manual signals, which are not distinctive "hand signs" yet are essential language morphemes. Interpreters will analyze and apply

these grammatical markers, which involve eye and head movements, facial movements, and body postures rather than the use of “signs” as distinct lexical elements. This workshop will be presented in American Sign Language (ASL). Video Conference

- **February 25, 2017**

[2017 Michigan Regional Braille Challenge](#)

The Braille Challenge® is an academic competition unlike any other. This two-stage contest is designed to motivate students who are blind to emphasize their study of Braille while rewarding their success with fun-filled, but challenging, local and national events. Any student with a visual impairment who reads Braille is eligible to participate in the preliminary Challenge contest event.

Flint, Michigan