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OSSE Receives Annual IDEA Part C and Part B Determination Letters

WASHINGTON, DC – As part of the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), States are provided with annual performance determinations based on the USDE's Office of Special Education Programs' (OSEP's) review of reported data. Each year's determination is based on data reported during the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), which spans July 1-June 30.

Under IDEA, states can receive one of four determinations: meets requirements, needs assistance, needs intervention, or needs substantial intervention.

In OSEP's July 1, 2013 communication to OSSE regarding the District's annual determinations for FFY 2012, OSSE received a determination level of "needs assistance" related to Part C IDEA (services to infants and toddlers with qualifying disabilities, birth to three) and "needs intervention" related to Part B IDEA (services to children with qualifying disabilities, ages 3 through 21) provided by Local Education Agencies (LEAs).

While the annual performance determinations are based on the totality of the State's data, it is important to note the District's FFY 2011 annual performance reports (APRs), which are based on the 2011-2012 year, serve as the foundation for the determination process. Data examined includes the timeliness rate for evaluations and service provision; transition planning for children and youth; and progress related to the District's historical noncompliance.

The District continues to work toward meeting requirements and has demonstrated high levels of performance in its Part C IDEA program. The most notable achievements include a 99% rate of timeliness with initial evaluations, an 85% rate of timeliness with initial service provision, and 100% valid and reliable data for its Part C APR indicators.

Additionally, the District's Part B IDEA program is making great strides toward meeting the prescribed requirements. In the most recent school year (SY 2012-2013), the May 2013 report to OSEP demonstrated that 94% of student evaluations were completed in a timely manner, and 92% of reevaluations were completed in a timely manner during the reporting period. Further, the District demonstrated a 100% rate of timely transition from C to B services by age three. OSEP also confirmed that OSSE reported valid and reliable data for 95% of its FFY 2011 Part B indicators.

OSSE's Division of Specialized Education continues to execute an ambitious reform agenda that includes robust monitoring, policy development, and data-driven technical assistance for LEAs and providers. Assistant Superintendent for Specialized Education, Dr. Amy Maisterra, noted, "While there is still much work to be done, the District has made significant progress in the past year, and OSSE anticipates reporting continued improvement. We have set the bar high for FFY 2013 to improve compliance with IDEA requirements and provide high quality programming that ensures that all infants, toddlers,



children, and youth with developmental delays and disabilities are prepared for a full and productive life.”

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