



LEA LOOK FORWARD

October 9–16, 2014



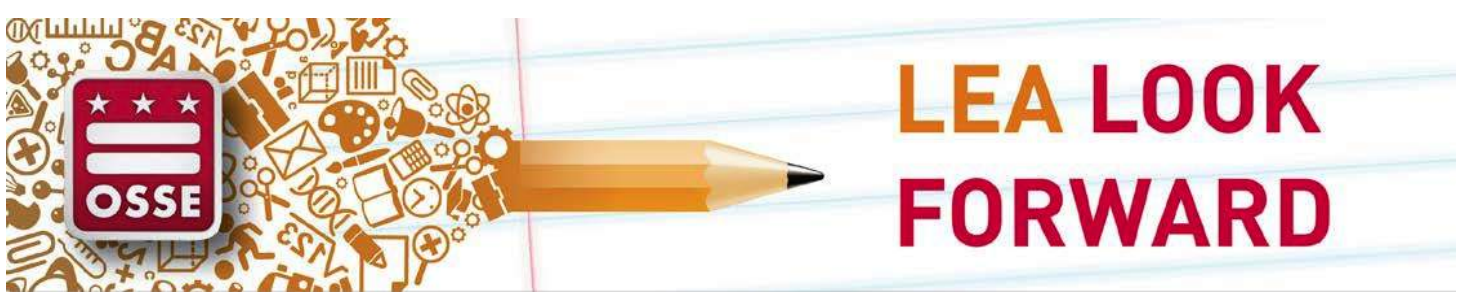
District Highlights:

- I. [Watch State Superintendent Aguirre on FOX 5 News](#)
- II. [Bullying Prevention Awareness Month](#)
- III. [Save the Date: My School DC EDFest](#)
- IV. [Let's Move! DC Health Expo - Wrap-Up](#)
- V. [Highlights from the 2014 College Conversations](#)
- VI. [What is PARCC?](#)

Important Dates and Deadlines to Remember

Dates:

- 10/10: College Readiness Professional Development for Middle Grades and High School Counselors [Email for inquiries](#)
- 10/10: [Registration Required for Intro to PARCC Online Practice Tests, Accessibility Features and Accommodations](#)
- 10/10: [Registration Required for NCHC Webinar: McKinney-Vento 101: School Access and Stability under the McKinney-Vento Act](#)



Important Dates and Deadlines to Remember (Continued)

- 10/16: [Registration for McKinney-Vento 102: Support for School Success and Special Populations](#)
- 10/17: [Registration for NCHE Coffee Break: Understanding Doubled-Up](#)
- 10/23: [Registration Required for "Get Started Now!" Secondary Transition Public Awareness Campaign LEA Mixer](#)
- 10/24: [Food Day 2014. Download Food Day Curriculum](#)
- 10/24: [The Secondary Transition Fair and Community Forum](#)
- 10/28: [Registration Required for EBP Instructional Series / Text Adaptation Webinar](#)
- 10/28: [Registration Required for The Best Me I Can Be: Implementing Student-led IEPs in the Special Education Planning Process Meeting](#)
- 10/31: [Registration Required for The Nuts and Bolts of Secondary Transition for Students with Disabilities Training](#)
- 11/3-12/3: LEA Faculty and Staff Data Collection [Email for inquiries](#)
- 11/8: SAT Test Date-[Register](#)
- 11/7: It Takes a City: Bridging Schools to Resources for Enhanced Student Outcomes-[Register](#)
- 11/15: National Science Teachers Association Virtual Conference: NGSS Practices in Action. [Registration Required](#)

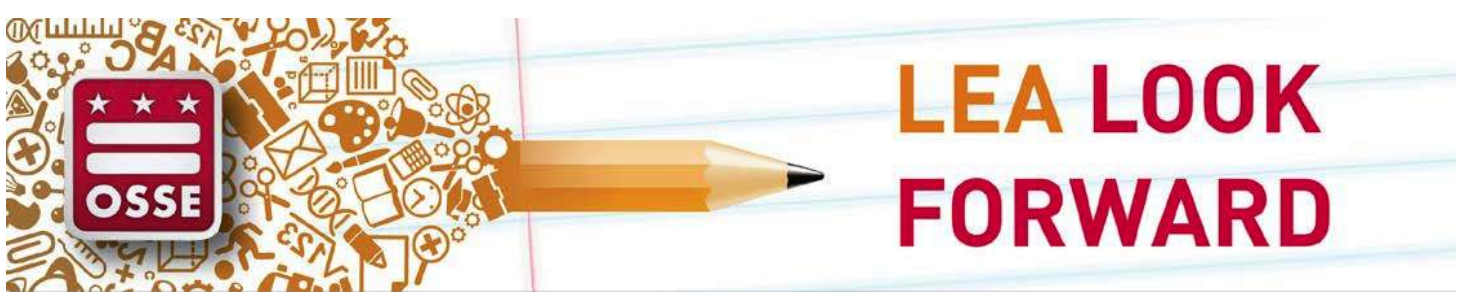
Deadlines:

- 10/9: [Parent Community Focus Group on Least Restrictive Environment \(LRE\) and Discipline Procedural Safeguards](#)
- 10/10: [Registration for SPARK Physical Education Training for Pre-K and K-12](#)
- 10/10: [2014 OSSE Division of Early Learning Recognition Awards Nominations Due](#)
- 10/24: [OSSE Scholars Applications Due](#)
- 11/2: OSSE Data Collection for Students Born Outside US. [Email for more Information](#)
- 11/5: [The Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program Application Submission Deadline](#)

Enrollment Audit

Reminder: Office of Enrollment and Residency

LEAs are asked to please continue to view the updated [OSSE Enrollment and Residency webpage](#) for all forms, handbook updates and guidance documents as we move forward with the enrollment audit.



Enrollment Audit (Continued)

Reminder: Enrollment Audit Training Material Available On OSSE Website

PowerPoint slides from the [Enrollment Audit, Child Count, and LEP Sample Audit webinar](#), presented on September 9 and 10, 2014 are now available on the OSSE website.

Reminder: Enrollment Audit Residency Verification Documentation and Guidance

OSSE has provided residency verification training to all LEAs for School Year 2014-2015. Please visit our website for [training presentations, translated forms and resource materials](#). If you have questions, please contact [Sean Flora](#).



Division of Early Learning

Final Notice: 2014 OSSE Division of Early Learning Recognition Awards Nominations

The District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education's Division of Early Learning will honor accomplishments in the field of early childhood education in DC at its inaugural recognition event: A Night of the Stars. The event will roll out the red carpet and salute the professionals that prepare our children for kindergarten and beyond.

By applauding the dedication of early childhood providers and professionals, we remind our communities of the importance of high-quality early childhood education, and let providers everywhere know that we recognize and value the important work they do.

OSSE is calling for nominations for the following awards:

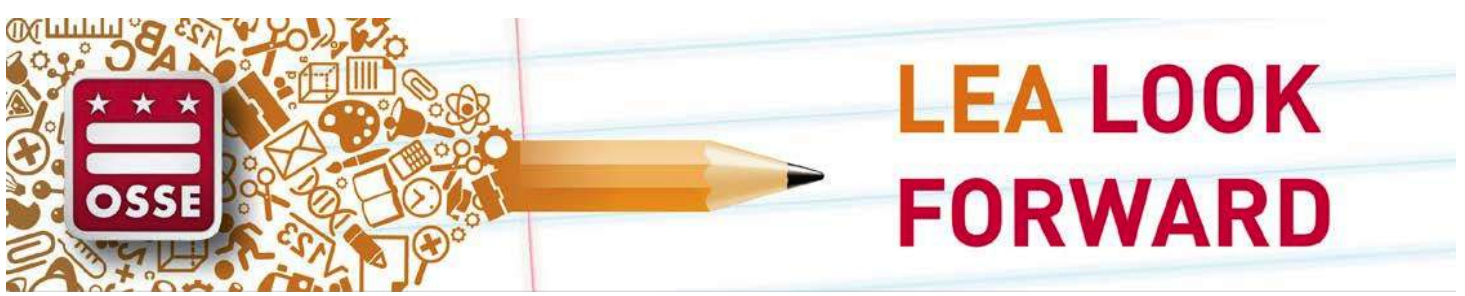
Service Awards

- Early childhood professionals who have been teaching for at least 25 years.
- Early childhood centers that have been operating for at least 25 years.
- Early childhood professionals who have demonstrated outstanding service and excellence in teaching for at least 50 years.
- Early childhood centers who have been in business in DC for at least 50 years.

Retirement Awards

- Early childhood professionals who have or will retire between October 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014

Please send your nominations to [Nikki Roach](#). Nominations must be received no later than October 10, 2014.



Division of Early Learning (Continued)

Reminder: SY 2013-2014 Pre-K Statewide Classroom Assessments Scoring System (CLASS) Evaluation

Pursuant to the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act of 2008 (DC Code 38-271.03; DC Law 17-202), OSSE, in partnership with School Readiness Consulting, conducted its annual evaluation of pre-kindergarten programs in community-based organizations and public charter schools during SY 2013-2014 using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). The purpose of the study was to assess classroom quality and evaluate early childhood programs through collecting and reporting quantitative and qualitative data to provide useful input for strengthening the early childhood education system. OSSE will disseminate program/school level reports this week. A final comprehensive report including the District of Columbia Public Schools is expected by the end of September 2014. To learn more about the CLASS tool and evaluation process, access and watch the [District of Columbia Early Childhood Program Quality Evaluation SY 2013-2014 webinar](#) now.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact [Mahlet Getachew](#).

Reminder: Child Care Licensing Orientation for Centers and Homes Available Online

Are you interested in opening or setting up a licensed child development center or home facility? Access and participate in the following online licensing webinars to learn how:

- [Child Development Center Webinar](#)
- [Home Based Child Care Facility Webinar](#)

If you have questions regarding the webinar, contact [Brandee Reed](#) or call (202)741-5937.

Reminder: Child Care Emergency Preparedness Online Workshop

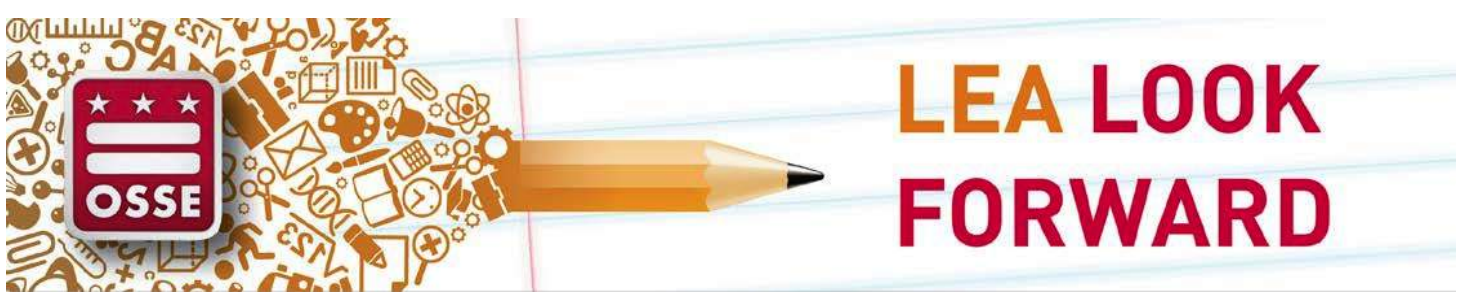
Improve your skills and take your practice to the next level by ensuring that all the children in your care will be protected during emergencies. Please access the online workshop through the U.S. Center for Child Development and Resiliency to complete the [Save the Children's Child Care Emergency Preparedness Training](#).



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education

New: Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) UPDATES

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Resources



DC adopted the Next Generation Science Standards and this year marks our first year of implementation. Learn more about the standards using the following resources:

Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

- [Learn DC NGSS](#)
- [NGSS @ National Science Teachers Association](#)

New: National Science Teachers Association Virtual Conference: NGSS Practices in Action

During this one-day interactive virtual conference, teachers will learn how to integrate Next Generation Science Standards practices into the K-12 classroom. The day will begin with a general session and be followed by three breakout sessions. Participants will come together again for a closing general session. All educators who register for the virtual conference will have access to the archive recordings of all presentations and all resource collections.

Presenters: OSSE Division of Teaching and Learning

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2014

Time: 10am-6pm

Audience: K-12 educators

Registration: Member price: \$79, Nonmember price: \$99, Attendance/Participation Certificate: \$9.95

[Click here to register](#)

New: School/ Student Contests and Competitions

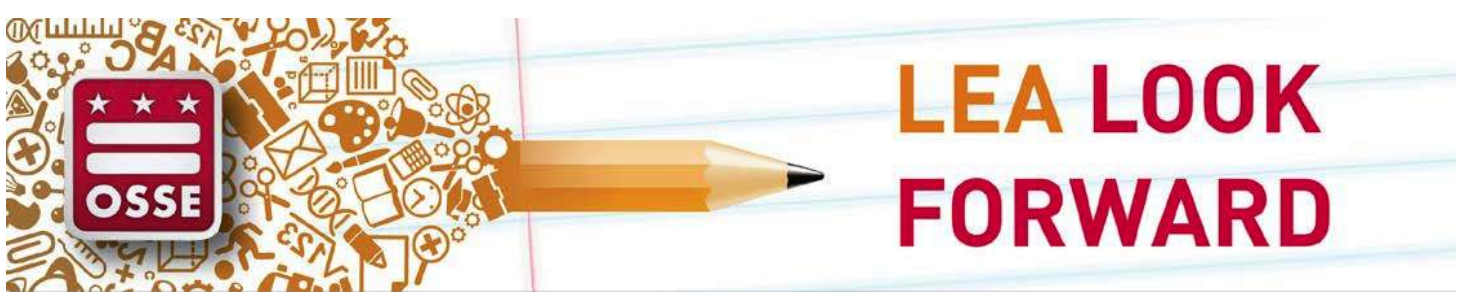
As one of the foremost student science and technology prize programs in the U.S. and Canada, the [DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition](#) helps to increase science literacy among students and motivates them to excel in communicating scientific ideas. Students in grades 7–12 are asked to write a 700- to 1,000-word essay in one of four categories: food, energy, protection, or innovation. Prizes include U.S. Savings Bonds and a special awards trip to the Walt Disney World® Resort and the Kennedy Space Center. Teachers advising winning students receive a cash grant, the awards trip, and an expenses-paid trip to the National Science Teachers Association National Conference on Science Education.

Essay Deadline: January 31, 2015

As of one of the US Army's Educational Outreach Programs (AEOP), [eCYBERMISSION](#) is a free, web-based STEM competition for students in grades 6 through 9. eCYBERMISSION challenges students to think about real-world applications of STEM by working in teams to identify a problem in their community and use scientific practices or the engineering design process to find a solution. Students compete for state, regional, and national awards, with potential winnings of up to \$9,000 (maturity value) in U.S. Savings Bonds.



LEA LOOK FORWARD



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Experience the [2014 eCYBERMISSION National Judging and Education Event](#)— view the winners, read about the winning projects, and learn more about those who accepted the challenge!

Registration Deadline: December 17, 2014

Competition Deadline: February 25, 2015

The [ExploraVision K–12](#) competition, which supports learning called for in the Next Generation Science Standards, challenges students in the U.S. and Canada to research a technology of interest and explore what that technology could be like 20 years from now.

Up to \$240,000 in savings bonds (at maturity) are awarded annually to student winners for the most innovative ideas that combine imagination with the tools of science. Winning schools, students, and teachers capture additional prizes—including computers and an expenses-paid awards event in DC for the first and second place winning students, their parents or guardians, coach and mentor, and team.

Educator Opportunities:

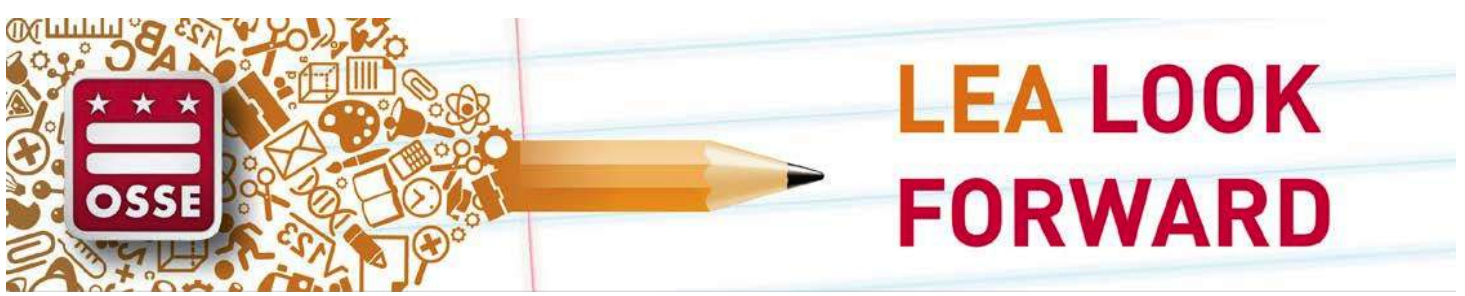
[The Shell Science Lab Challenge](#), sponsored by Shell Oil Company (Shell) and administered by National Science Teachers Association, encourages teachers (grades 6–12) in the U.S. and Canada, who have found innovative ways to deliver quality lab experiences with limited school and laboratory resources, to share their approaches for a chance to win up to \$93,000 in prizes, including a grand prize school science lab makeover support package valued at \$20,000.

Submissions Deadline: December 19, 2014

[The Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program](#) recognizes and encourages excellence in teaching in the U.S. and abroad. U.S. and international teachers receive grants to study at a university, observe classes and complete a project pertaining to their field of educational inquiry during their time abroad. The program is open to teachers from the United States and selected countries in multiple world regions.

Application Deadline: November 5, 2014

Science Fair and hands on projects are a great way to make connections to the common core. Students use mathematical reasoning, measurement and data analysis. They present their information and write up analysis citing evidence from their experiments and informational text. Look for resources to help find student projects or even plan a school event with the help of [Science Buddies](#), a great online resource.



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

[Apply to be a fellow.](#) Fellowships enrich the personal and professional growth of teachers by recognizing and supporting them as they identify and pursue opportunities around the globe that will have the greatest impact on their practice, the academic lives of their students and on their school communities. There will be ongoing information sessions and webinars.

Grant Deadline: January 29, 2015

Reminder: “Get Started Now!” Secondary Transition Public Awareness Campaign LEA Mixer

This past June, OSSE executed a preliminary launch of our new “Get Started Now,” a special education secondary transition public awareness campaign. At the event, OSSE provided a general overview of secondary transition; showcased hard copy and electronic materials and discussed next steps for secondary transition planning for city-wide use.

“Get Started Now” is a public awareness campaign that highlights ways to support a successful transition for students ages 16 and above with individualized education programs (IEPs) as they prepare for their futures post high-school.

The campaign message is simple – everyone has a role to play, and the time to start planning is now. The campaign seeks to heighten awareness about secondary transition, the many resources available to the community, and the roles each of us plays: whether a student thinking about his or her post-school options, a parent supporting a student receiving special education services, an educator responsible for IEP development, or a business owner in the community looking for ways to support youth.

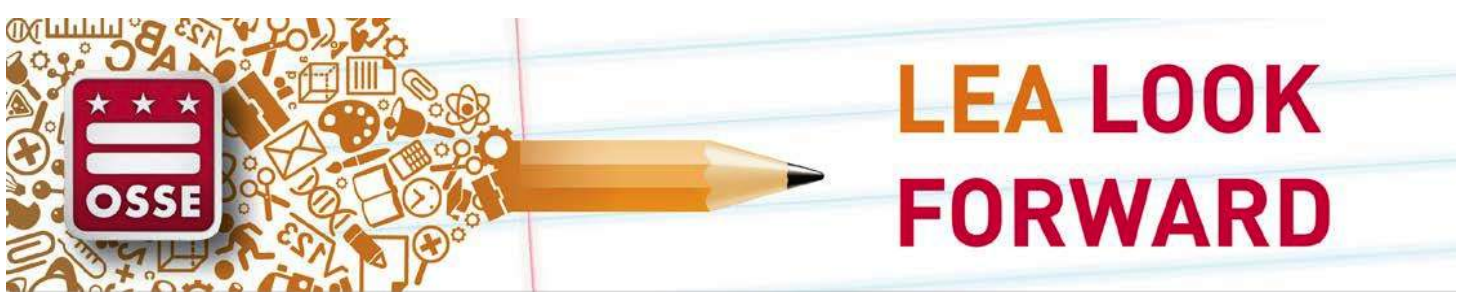
OSSE is pleased to announce a secondary transition LEA “Get Started Now!” mixer scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2014 to provide schools with more information regarding this campaign. The mixer will be hosted at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 from 4pm–6pm.

Along with receiving our “Get Started Now!” materials, viewing our secondary transition website and having a chance to mingle with members of the secondary transition community of practice, attendees will have an opportunity to connect with other agencies that provide resources and student support.

To learn more about the mixer or secondary transition resources, please contact [Ms. Naté Dearden, Esq.](#), Secondary Transition Specialist, or call (202) 741-0267. [Please RSVP here.](#)

Reminder: Online Professional Development Opportunity- Serving Students in Transitory Housing

OSSE invites you to participate in the following webinars made available by the National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE). NCHE is a federally funded information and technical assistance center at SERVE Center at the



University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). NCHC will be offering the following webinars free of charge during the months of October and November:

Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

- McKinney-Vento 101: School Access and Stability under the McKinney-Vento Act
Friday, October 10, 2014, 2pm–3pm EDT
- McKinney-Vento 102: Support for School Success and Special Populations
Thursday, October 16, 2014, 2pm–3pm EDT
- NCHC Coffee Break: Understanding Doubled-Up
Friday, October 17, 2014, 2pm–2:45pm EDT
- McKinney-Vento 101: School Access and Stability under the McKinney-Vento Act
Thursday, November 13, 2014, 2pm–3pm EST
- McKinney-Vento 102: Support for School Success and Special Populations
Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 2pm–3pm EST
- Determining Eligibility for McKinney-Vento Rights and Services
Thursday, November 20, 2014, 2pm–3:15pm EST

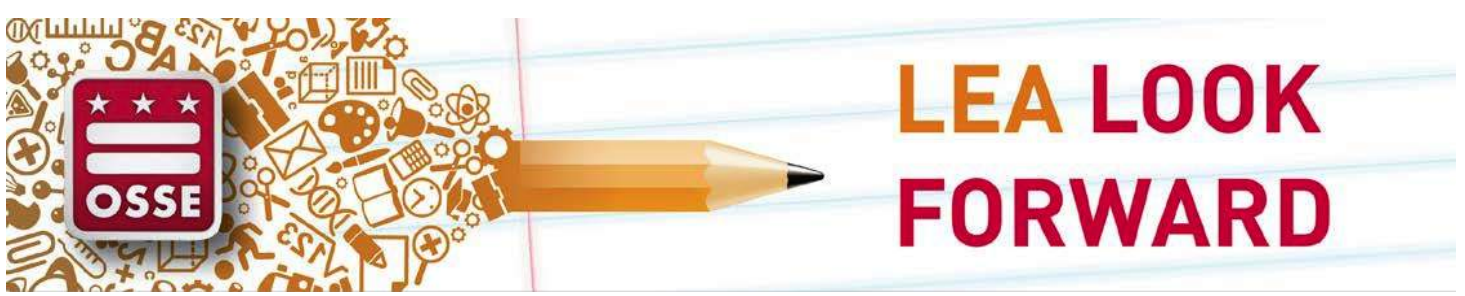
Who should attend? LEA administrators, social workers, liaisons, counselors, parents and others (homeless families) responsible for coordinating services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically. Please share this information with interested colleagues.

[View full webinar descriptions or register for a webinar here.](#)

Reminder: EBP Instructional Series / Text Adaptation

Improve your instructional practice through evidence-based research! OSSE is offering an exciting webinar series built to help teachers improve their instructional delivery and increase student achievement. This month's series is dedicated to Parent Implemented Intervention (PII).

Sign up and experience effective ways to partner, collaborate, and utilize parents, families, and caretakers to support student achievement in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Teachers, administrators, and educational practitioners (e.g., teacher assistants, teacher aides, paraprofessionals, etc.) are invited to sign up and learn different activities and methods that have been proven successful for teachers of every content level and background. Ask questions, join a community of learners, and increase your support systems to close the achievement gap!

This series will be led by Brandon Wallace, OSSE educational program specialist and faculty associate for the School of Education at the Johns Hopkins University.

Presenter: OSSE Division of Elementary, Secondary and Specialized Education, Teaching and Learning Unit

Date: October 28, 2014

Time: 3pm–4pm

Registration: <http://osse.dc.gov/event/evidence-based-practices-ebp-instructional-series-text-adaptation>

Final Notice: Intro to PARCC Online Practice Tests, Accessibility Features, and Accommodations Webinar

This webinar is an introduction to the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) resources online including PARCC practice tests and tutorials. It also provides an overview to PARCC computer-based accessibility features for all students and accommodations for students with disabilities and/or English language learners.

Presenter: OSSE

Date: Friday, October 10, 2014

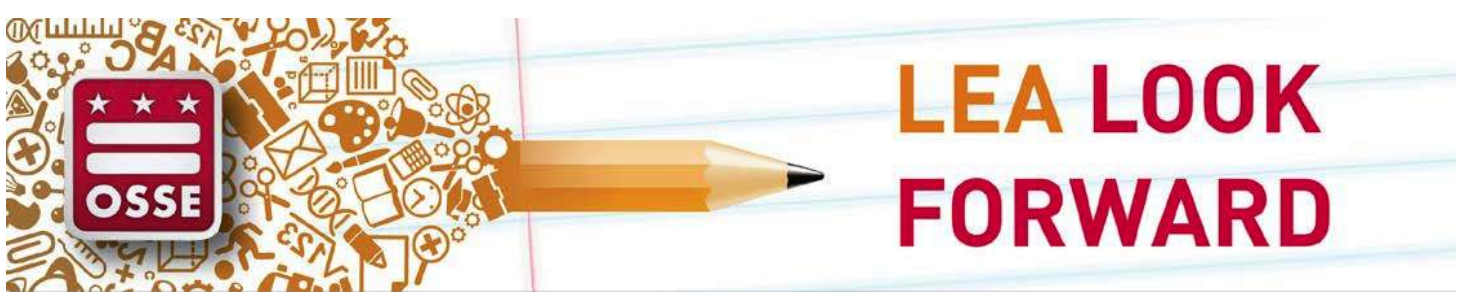
Time: 1pm–2:30pm

[Register here](#)

Reminder: Grants Availability Notification: 2014 Substantial Increase in Immigrant Children and Youth Enrollment

This is a notification regarding the availability of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 Substantial Increase in Immigrant Children and Youth Enrollment [3114(d)] Grant amounting to \$66,732.40. This grant provides funding to eligible local education agencies (LEAs) in DC that have experienced a substantial increase in the percentage or number of immigrant children and youth* enrollment.

*The term “immigrant children and youth” refers to individuals who:



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

- a. are aged 3 through 21;
- b. were not born in any State; and
- c. have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more States for more than three full academic years.

Please click on the following links for additional information:

- [Grant Availability Notification \(Full Version\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- [Application Guidance](#)
- [Letter of Intent to Apply](#)
- [Application Template](#)

Please note that the application template is for reference purposes only. All applications must be completed through [EGMS](#).

- [Scoring Rubric](#)

For questions, please contact [Bryan Sebobo](#) or call (202) 478-9220.

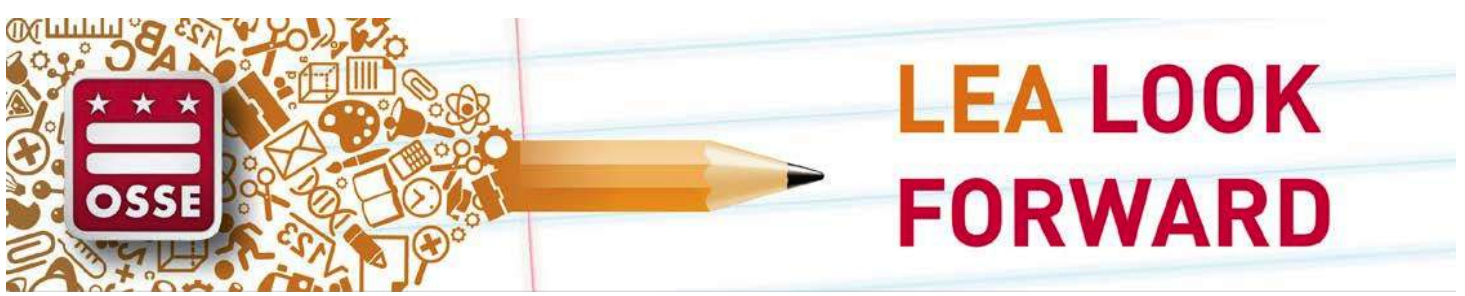
Reminder: The Nuts and Bolts of Secondary Transition for Students with Disabilities

Educators who understand the basics of transition planning have increased abilities to develop realistic postsecondary goals, provide individualized transition services, and maintain overall Indicator 13 compliance.

This introductory training will provide a brief overview of the foundational theories that guide quality transition planning.

Participants will learn about secondary transition best practices; legal requirements; tips for creating compliant secondary transition plans; and how to capture this information within OSSE's Special Education Data System (SEDS).

Additionally, participants will receive information about interagency collaboration and become familiar with resources that can support transition plan development and implementation. Participants will leave with a best practice template to inform secondary transition planning at their sites.



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Presenter: OSSE

Date: Friday, October 31, 2014

Time: 8:30am–3:30pm

Location: OSSE 8th Floor, Room 806 A & B, 810 First St. NE, Washington DC

[Register](#)

Reminder: The Best Me I Can Be: Implementing Student-led IEPs

Research has shown that students who actively participate throughout the IEP process have higher levels of school engagement and are more likely to achieve their academic and personal goals. Participants will learn how student-led IEPs fit within the broader concept of self-determination and become familiar with resources, including The Best Me I Can Be film modules and the Student-led IEP Toolkit, which illustrates how to facilitate increased student engagement in the planning process for students of all ages through curriculum, activities, and guided discussions.

Presenter: OSSE

Dates: Tuesday, October 28; Wednesday, November 19, 2014; Friday, January 23; Monday, February 2, 2015

Time: 8:30am–3:30pm

Location: OSSE 8th Floor, Room 806 A & B

[Register](#)

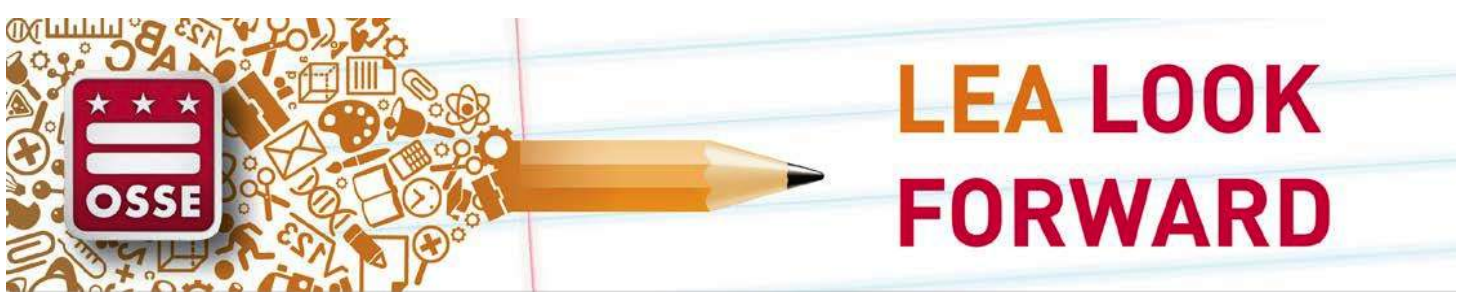
Reminder: LEA Institute: Resources Supporting Student Achievement

OSSE is hosting a series of institutes geared towards connecting DC Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to critical resources to support student achievement.

The first LEA Institute on November 7, 2014 is aimed at connecting LEAs to City agencies that provide wraparound supports to students and their families. In efforts to understand the barriers, challenges and desired outcomes in supporting student needs, OSSE has developed a needs assessment tool for schools to complete in advance of the institute. Results from needs assessment will be used to guide the design and development of event.

If you are an LEA or school staff member, help us plan for conference sessions by providing feedback on the city services needed to support your students via our [LEA Needs Assessment](#).

Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)



Reminder: LEA Institute: “It Takes a City!” – November 7, 2014

As a component of our new State System of Support (SSOS), OSSE is hosting a series of institutes geared toward connecting the LEAs to critical resources to support student achievement.

The first LEA Institute is focused on connecting schools to city agencies that provide wraparound and other social supports to students and their families. OSSE has invited key District child-serving agencies to participate in the first institute. The event will feature a keynote speaker, a panel convening of DC Agency leaders, and concurrent informational and problem solving breakout sessions with school, OSSE and city agency staff.

The event will be designed to address schools’ most pressing needs, in part informed by a [brief assessment](#) that we are asking you to complete.

You do not want to miss "It Takes a City!" [Register](#) and follow the [event on social media](#).

Reminder: Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Monthly Support Webinars

OSSE is conducting monthly webinars to assist LEAs in the proper completion of Child Outcomes Summary (COS) data collection and scores. The COS data collection process is required for LEAs who serve preschool and pre-K students with disabilities.

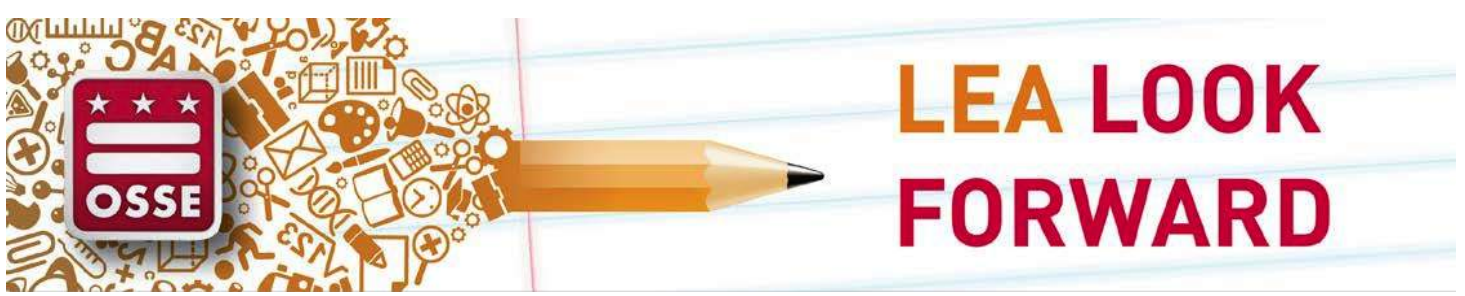
These monthly webinars will be hosted as an interactive “community call” where all callers can participate in a live discussion, ask questions, and share with one another.

Throughout the school year, during these webinars, OSSE will present information on various topics designed to provide guidance, clarification and support in the completion and reporting of COS data and scores. Topics for the Fall 2014, October and November webinars will include:

- October: Viewing the B-7 report and understanding the data
- November: Overview of the COS data check process

The webinars will be conducted in the following format:

- News/Announcements from OSSE
- Main Topic/Presentation
- Questions/Answers/Discussion



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Presenter: OSSE

Date(s): Wednesday, October 22, 2014; November date to be announced.

Time: 1pm–2pm

[Register here for October 22, 2014 webinar](#)

Reminder: DC Municipal Regulations Title 5-E, Chapter 30: Special Education Review Schedule

In Spring 2014, OSSE initiated a review of Title 5-E, Chapter 30 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), the local regulation that governs special education practice in DC, with the intention of revising identified key components. In addition, input from the process will be used to inform the development of a new five-year strategic State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) for Special Education.

As part of the regulatory review process, the Division of Specialized Education (DSE) will be releasing surveys and holding topic-specific focus groups on the following key content area “clusters” to inform the work:

- Transfer of Educational Rights
- Child Find, Evaluation, & Eligibility Determination
- Specialized Instruction & Caseload/Class Size
- Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) & Discipline Procedural Safeguards
- Graduation Pathways, Secondary Transition, & IEP Certificate of Completion

A high-level overview of the initiative’s calendar of events and the OSSE content area review process can be found at: [DC Municipal Regulations \(DCMR\) Title 5-E, Chapter 30: Special Education Review Schedule](#).

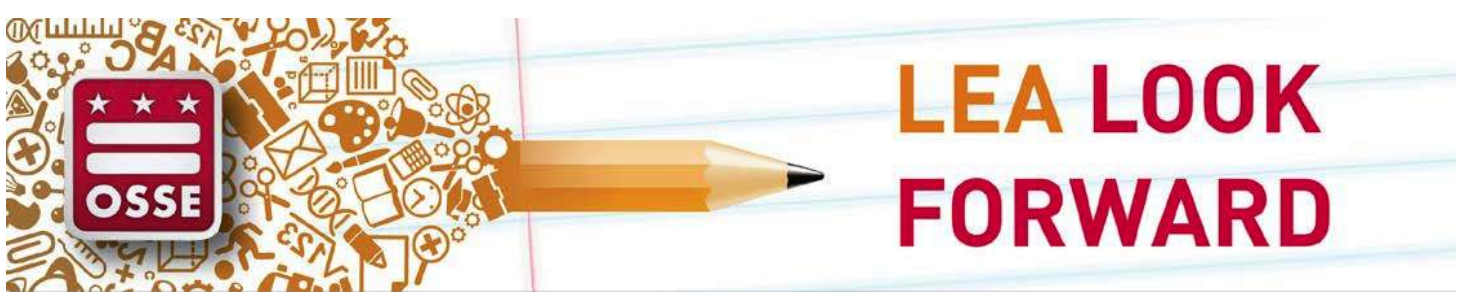
The fourth content area, Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) & Discipline Procedural Safeguards, is being reviewed in October.

DSE has developed a [topic-specific survey](#) that is open to all stakeholders. The deadline for submission of this topic survey is Wednesday, October 29, 2014.

In addition, an LEA focus group is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, from 2:30pm–4:30pm at 810 First Street NE, Eighth Floor, Room 806B, Washington, DC 20002.

[RSVP](#) by October 17, 2014.

The parent/community focus group is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 11, 2014, from 2pm–3:30pm at Anacostia Library Meeting Room 2, 1800 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC 20002. [RSVP](#) by Thursday, October 9, 2014.



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Focus group reminders will be posted on the [OSSE website](#) and in OSSE newsletters such as the LEA Look Forward. For more information, contact [Jamille Peters](#), OSSE policy analyst.

Reminder: Understanding Compliance Targets: Guidance for LEAs

With the beginning of the new school year, the special education monitoring and compliance team wants to support LEA, school, and student success. To that end, please note the following tips related to findings of noncompliance and requirements for their correction under the IDEA:

OSSE is responsible for monitoring all District LEAs to ensure that special education services are provided in accordance with the IDEA. Some items that OSSE monitors are considered “compliance” items.

For any compliance item, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), requires OSSE to make findings of noncompliance if the LEA demonstrates less than 100% compliance.

The IDEA items on the student-level monitoring tool are all compliance items. Initial evaluation and secondary transition, which OSSE reviews at least three times per year, are also compliance items.

For any compliance item, OSSE will not use a threshold for identification of noncompliance and will make findings of noncompliance if it is determined that an LEA has achieved below 100% compliance with a specific requirement. [Read the current monitoring manual and student-level tool.](#)

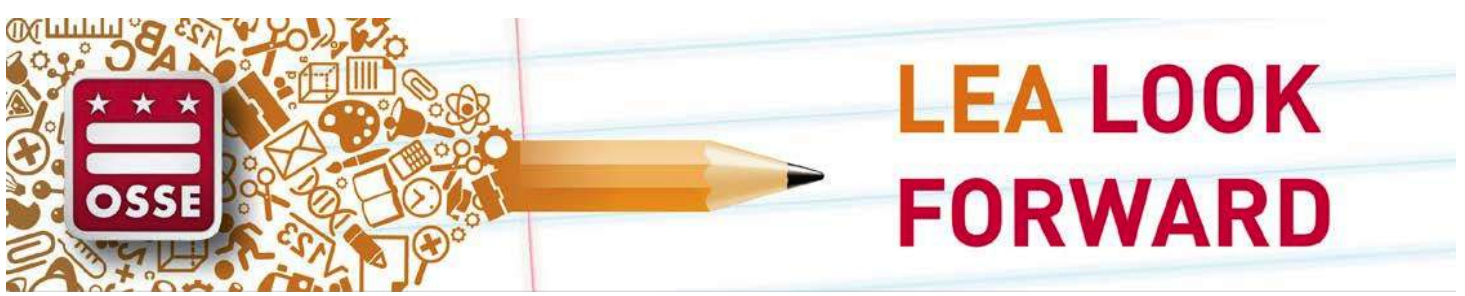
If you have questions about OSSE’s special education monitoring system, or would like more information on monitoring and compliance, please contact [Dr. Jennifer Masoodi](#), Director of Monitoring and Compliance or call (202)741-0479.

Reminder: SEDS Duplicative Enrollment Report in Reports Tab in SLED

A new SEDS Duplicative Enrollment Report has been made available in the Reports Tab that displays a list of special education students who are enrolled by more than one LEA. Duplicative enrollments frequently result in losing or preventing access to a student in SEDS. This report can be used to identify special education students who require entry/exit code updating through the SIS or coordination with other LEAs to reconcile enrollment statuses. More Information about these reports and details on how these new reports will benefit LEA SE POCs is available in the [LEA SE POC SEDS Reports Tab User Guide](#). You can access the SEDS Reports Tab through the [SLED Main Page](#), by clicking the blue ‘Reports’ tab and selecting the red “OSSE Reporting” logo.

Reminder: SY 2014-2015 Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education Program Calendar

OSSE is happy to announce its [SY 2014-2015 K-12 Program Calendar](#). A collaborative effort within the Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education, the K-12 Program Calendar encompasses professional development opportunities, parent trainings, and grant technical assistance opportunities.



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Please review the calendar to learn about key opportunities designed to support student success in SY 2014-2015. The calendar will be refreshed the last week of each month and is meant to serve as a snapshot of upcoming events. Please check osse.dc.gov for current calendar information, including training details and registration links.

Reminder: Specialized Education 2014-15 Onsite Monitoring Calendar

OSSE's Division of Specialized Education Monitoring and Compliance Unit will conduct onsite special education monitoring at more than 30 LEAs, nonpublic schools, and Part C programs during SY 2014-2015.

[Review the monitoring calendar.](#)

Each LEA, school, or program scheduled to receive an onsite monitoring visit from the OSSE team during the SY 2014-15 will be contacted directly by the OSSE monitoring team at least two weeks prior to the onsite visit.

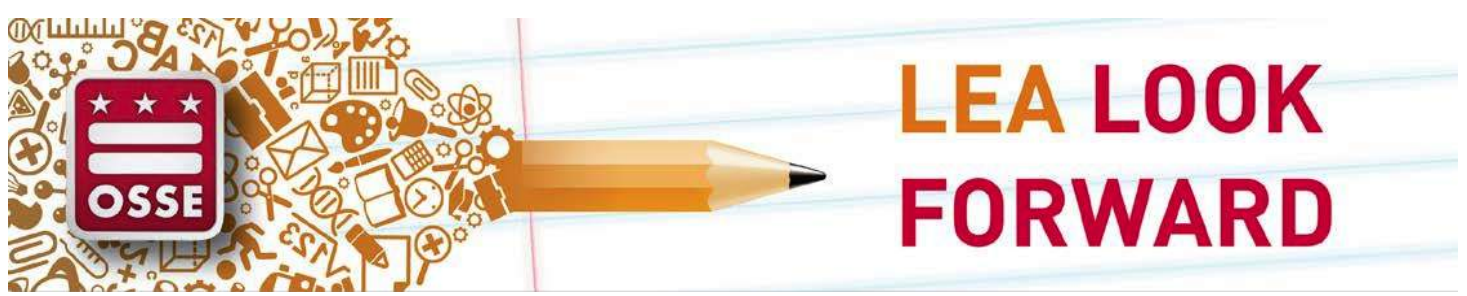
If you have questions about onsite monitoring, please contact [Dr. Jennifer Masoodi](#), Director of Monitoring and Compliance, or call (202) 741-0479.

Reminder: Related Service Providers SEDS Training

The OSSE DSE is holding a SEDS training for related service providers who serve students with disabilities at LEAs and nonpublic programs in DC.

Related service providers (RSPs) are required to use SEDS for documenting evaluations, assessments and services provided to students with disabilities. This training is designed to teach RSPs the correct way to document services in SEDS, including missed services, and will introduce tools available to make the documentation process more streamlined in SEDS. The training will also review SEDS Fall Release updates that affect RSPs.

Each LEA and nonpublic program should select one current related service provider representative to attend this in-person, two hour training. It is not appropriate for one LEA to send a large group of staff to this training. Upon receiving training, the selected RSP representative will return to the LEA or nonpublic program to share information and train their related service provider colleagues.



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Presenter: OSSE Division of Specialized Education

Dates: Wednesday, October 22, 2014

Time: 9am–12pm

Location: OSSE, 810 First St. NE, 3rd Floor Computer Lab

Registration: [Related Service Provider SEDS Training](#)

For more information please contact osse.tta@dc.gov.

Reminder: Revised Early Childhood Transition Guidelines

DC Strong Start Early Intervention Program and OSSE’s Preschool Special Education (619) Program are pleased to release revised [Early Childhood Transition Guidelines](#).

Early Childhood Transition Guidelines provide non-regulatory guidance to Early Intervention Programs and Local Education Agencies to support the smooth and effective transition of children from early intervention into preschool special education.

For more information, please contact [Kerda DeHaan](#) at (202) 741-0791 or [Krista Scott](#) at (202) 741-5098

Reminder: Special Education Data System (SEDS) Train-the-Trainer

The Special Education Data System (SEDS), also referred to as “EasyIEP,” is the online database where school administrators, educators, and related service providers access special education records and document services provided to students with disabilities.

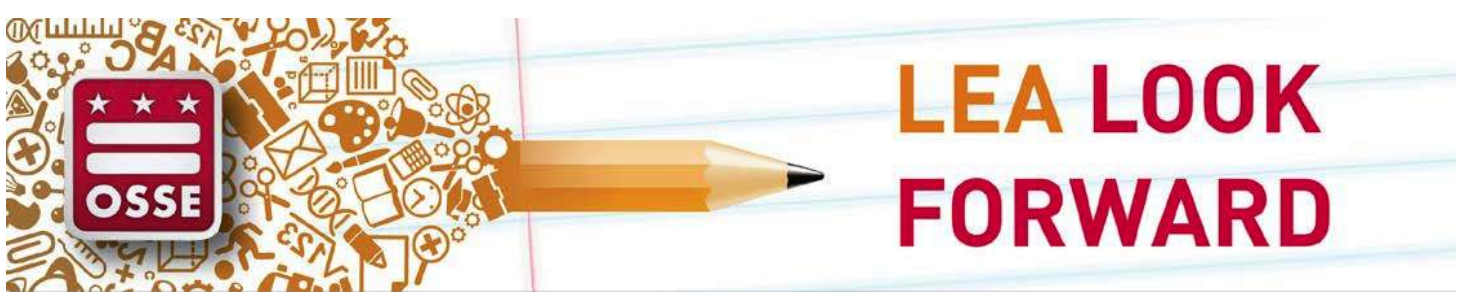
Each LEA is required to have a staff member who serves as the LEA Special Education Point of Contact (LEA SE POC). Additionally, each nonpublic school or program that serves students with disabilities enrolled in any DC LEA is required to have a SEDS Nonpublic Point of Contact (NP POC). The LEA SE POC and the NP POC are responsible for training all relevant staff on SEDS and for overseeing the use of SEDS by all staff.

The SEDS Train-the-Trainer course is a full-day, in-person training course designed to equip LEA SE POCs and NP POCs with information and resources to support them in their role as SEDS trainer.

This course also provides participants an opportunity to shape their own internal SEDS-use policy. There are currently three training dates to choose from this fall.

Presenter: OSSE

Dates: Friday, November 14, 2014



Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education (Continued)

Reminder: Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training

The Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program, developed by Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI), is embraced worldwide as a highly effective behavior management system for organizations committed to providing quality care and services in a respectful, safe environment. The strategies taught in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program provide participants with a proven framework for decision making and problem solving to prevent, de-escalate, and safely respond to disruptive or assaultive behavior.

OSSE will host a training once a month during the 2014-15 School Year.

This event will not go over physical restraint techniques. Please wear comfortable clothing, closed-toed shoes, and bring a water bottle.

Date(s): Thursday, October 30; Monday, November 17; Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Time: 8:30am–3:30pm

Location: 810 First Street, NE, 3rd Floor Grand Hall

[Register](#)

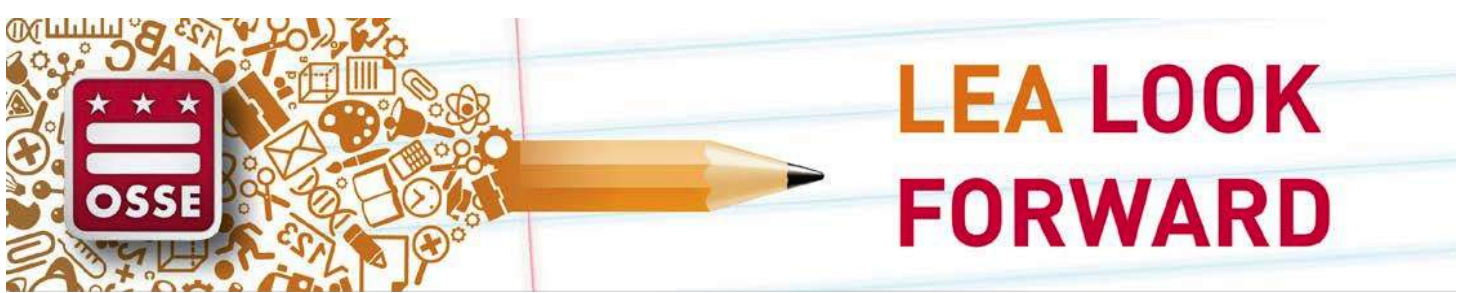


Division of Postsecondary and Career Education

New: Volunteers Needed for DC College Application Week

OSSE is pleased to announce that we are now recruiting volunteers for DC College Application Week (CAW). DC College Application Week will take place November 3–7, 2014.

CAW is part of a national effort to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students who pursue a postsecondary education. The goal of CAW is to assist all graduating seniors, especially those who may not otherwise apply to college, in navigating the complex college admissions process and ensure that each participating student completes and submits at least one application.



Division of Postsecondary and Career Education

Volunteers are critical to a successful DC College Application Week event. Districtwide recruitment of volunteers is needed to provide sufficient staff for each of our 33 host sites. Volunteers may include high school staff, registrars and admissions officers from nearby postsecondary institutions, and representatives from the community or community based organizations.

Volunteers can:

- greet and sign-in students
- assist students with the completion of online college applications
- distribute information about financial aid opportunities

If you are interested in working within any capacity please follow the link below:

[DC College Application Week Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions. We hope that you will consider volunteering. Let's apply!

[Learn more about DC College Application Week](#)

View participating host sites here:

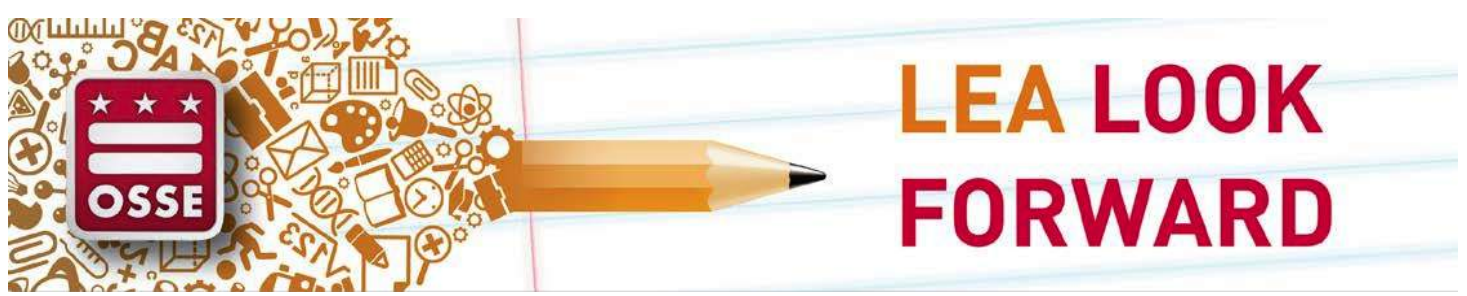
[DC College Application Week Host Sites](#)

Reminder: College Readiness Professional Development for Middle Grades and High School Counselors

OSSE is partnering with DCPS, charter LEAs, and nonprofit partners to provide college readiness professional development sessions to all DC public and charter counselors. Please join us on October 10 at Catholic University of America for interactive sessions on Building a College Going Culture and Guiding Families in High School Match and Fit. Building a College Going Culture, targeted at high school counselors, will be presented by Thurgood Marshall Academy at 9:30am–11:30am.

Guiding Families in High School Match and Fit, targeted at upper elementary and middle grades educators, will be presented by Higher Achievement DC Metro at 1pm-3pm. Both sessions will be held on campus in Caldwell Hall.

For questions please contact [Michael Longaro](#) Manager, C3N and Stakeholders Engagement or call (202) 251-7856.



Division of Postsecondary and Career Education

Reminder: OSSE Dual Enrollment Fund

The OSSE Dual Enrollment Fund covers the cost of unmet tuition, fees, books, and transportation (via Metro Card) for DCPS and PCS students enrolled in credit-bearing courses on a college campus.

Eligibility of the fund has been extended to students pursuing dual enrollment at any accredited, licensed, not-for-profit postsecondary institution in the DC Metro Area. Please contact by email [Mike Andrews](#), Program Manager If any students at your schools is pursuing dual enrollment at institutions that meet this new eligibility criteria and would like more information about the Dual Enrollment Funds.

Update: US Senate Youth Program: Don't miss out on an opportunity of a lifetime

The United States Senate Youth Program, established in 1962 by U.S. Senate Resolution, is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. The annual program will be held in Washington, D.C., from March 7–14, 2015. Two student leaders from each state, DC and the Department of Defense Education Activity will spend a week in Washington experiencing their national government in action. Student delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense and directors of other federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. All transportation, hotel and meal expenses will be provided by The Hearst Foundations.

In addition, each delegate will also be awarded a \$5,000 College Scholarship for undergraduate studies, with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science.

The USSYP 2015 application closes October 8, 2015!

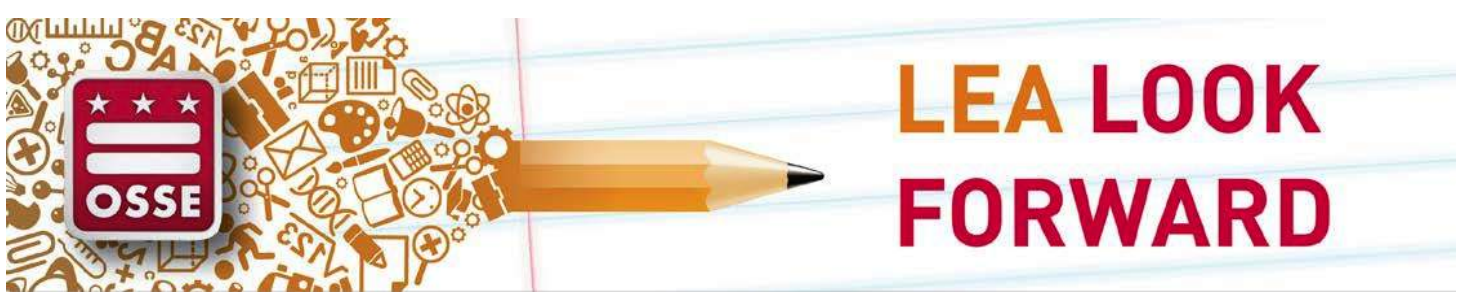
Don't miss out on this great opportunity! [Download the application here.](#)

Contact your State Selection Coordinator, [Tiffany DeJesus](#), for more information.

Reminder: Request for Applications for the Career and Technology Education (CTE) Certification Fund

OSSE's Adult and Career Education Division invites the submission of applications for the [CTE Certification Fund](#). The purpose of this grant is to support eligible LEAs and the University of the District of Columbia Community College (UDC-CC) with full or subsidized payments of certification exams within priority career sectors in DC as identified in the [CTE Strategic Plan](#).

Reminder: FSA Tool Publishes FAFSA Completion Numbers for the High School Graduating Class of 2014



The U.S. Department of Education is now providing high schools with [current data about their Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\) submissions and completions](#) so that high schools can track their progress and help ensure that their students complete the FAFSA.



Division of Wellness and Nutrition Services

New: Help students celebrate Food Day 2014

Food Day inspires Americans to change their diets for the better and to improve food policies. Every October 24, thousands of events all around the country bring Americans together to celebrate and enjoy real food, and to take action to solve food-related problems in our communities at the local, state, and national level.

The Food Day curriculum is designed for upper elementary and middle school students. It offers five lessons to teach children the importance of eating real, fresh food, cutting back on processed foods, and advocating for a healthier community. The lessons can be easily adapted for younger or older students. In addition, the lessons can specifically help you meet standards in English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subject. We encourage you to teach the lessons in sequence on the week of October 24 in celebration of Food Day, but you can also use them individually and at any time. [Download the curriculum for free and get specific information.](#)

For questions and inquiries contact [Laura Hansen](#), OSSE Nutrition Education Specialist.

Reminder: SPARK Physical Education Training for Early Childhood, K-2, Middle School, and High School

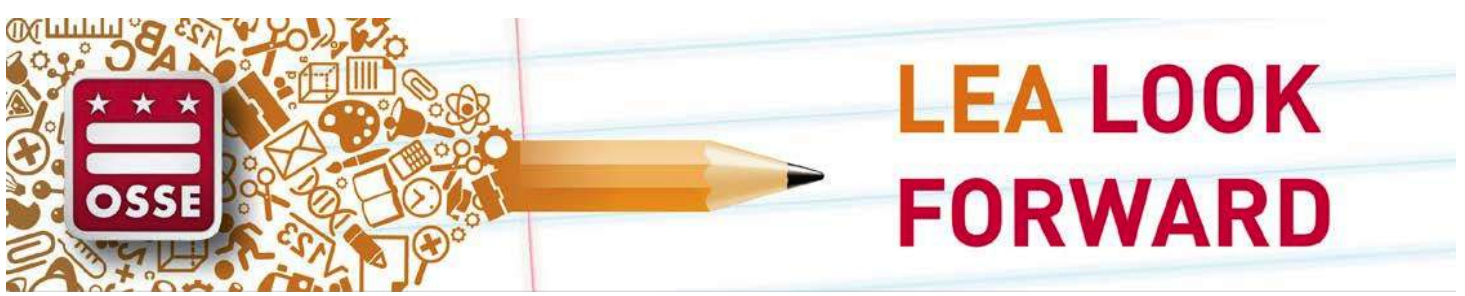
The Health Education Team (HET) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Unit will be hosting a physical activity/education curriculum training with SPARK.

SPARK is a research-based, public health organization that strives to improve the health of children, adolescents, and adults by disseminating evidence-based physical education, after-school, early childhood, and coordinated school health programs to teachers and recreation leaders serving child care centers and Pre-K–12th grade students.

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 (Early Childhood and grades K-2) and Thursday, October 16, 2014 (Middle School and High School)

Time: 10am–5pm (on both days)

Location: Raymond Recreation Center, 3725 10th St. N.W. Washington, DC 20010



Division of Wellness and Nutrition Services (Continued)

Who Should Attend: Teachers, DC educators, school personnel, government employees, parents/guardians, professionals who work on health education and school health, community based organizations who work with schools within DC, and child care center staff.

Attire: Gym attire (sweatpants/shorts, T-Shirt, and Rubber Sole Shoes)

For questions please contact [Lance Miller](#) or [Chibu Anyanwu](#)

Reminder: BOKS Activation Grants Available

Reebok and the Reebok Foundation are awarding \$1,000 to up to 300 schools for SY 2014-2015! The grants are intended to help get kids moving in a fun way to wake up their bodies for a day of learning with BOKS (Build Our Kids' Success), a before-school physical activity program. School staff, parents, and other community members are all invited to apply for the [BOKS Activation Grant](#) to support the launch of BOKS in their elementary and middle schools. Applications will be accepted on a rolling first come, first serve basis through October, 2014. All elementary and middle schools, public or private, across the country can apply. The BOKS Activation Grant is only for new BOKS schools. Schools that already run the BOKS program are not eligible to apply.

Reminder: 2015 DC Green Ribbon Schools Application Released

DC schools, districts, and institutes for higher education (IHE) are encouraged to apply for the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools Award.

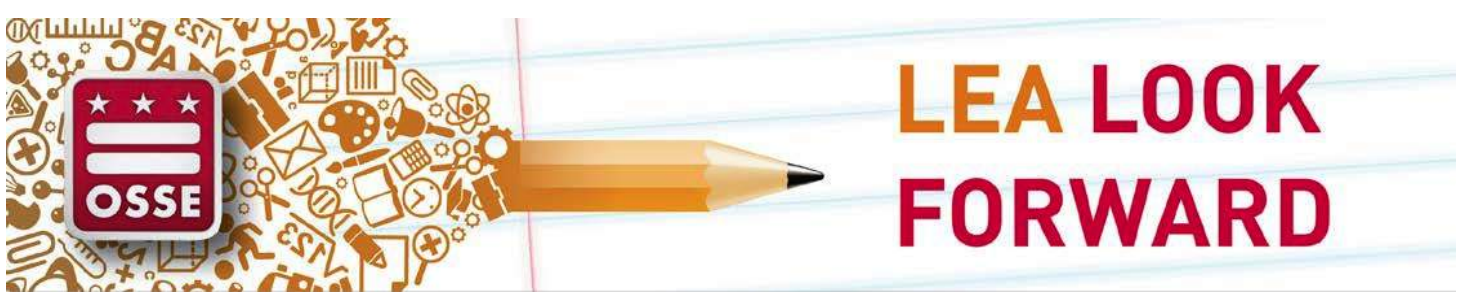
This award will recognize schools, districts, and IHE that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education to boost academic achievement and community engagement. It is also a great tool to identify ways to involve the school community in "going green".

OSSE is responsible for supporting schools, districts, and IHE in applying for this award, as well as nominating up to four schools, one district, and one IHE to the U.S. Department of Education.

The application, past awardees, and supporting documents can be found on the OSSE website- [Green Ribbon School Program](#) webpage.

Applications are due Friday, January 16, 2015.

For questions and inquiries please contact [Sam Ullery](#).



Division of Wellness and Nutrition Services (Continued)

Reminder: Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Administration

Charter School Middle/High School Leaders:

On behalf of OSSE, we hope that you will agree again to participate this fall in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) administration. If you did not agree to allow your students to be anonymously surveyed in 2012, we invite you to join us now for the fall 2014. All students in grades 6-12 are eligible.

You can sign-up by emailing [Julie Ost](#), the DC YRBS Coordinator, and confirm your participation.

Reminder: Health and Physical Education Needs Assessment

Online Survey for School Administration and Staff Only

OSSE and Johns Hopkins University's School of Education are currently conducting a needs assessment to identify specific challenges in regards to implementing effective health and physical education in schools in DC.

Each participant that completes and submits their [needs assessment questionnaire](#) will be eligible to enter into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. Details regarding drawing entry are provided at the end of the questionnaire.

OSSE and Johns Hopkins University will use the data to identify potential solutions and resources to address these challenges. The needs assessment questionnaire takes approximately 25 minutes to complete. The questionnaire is completely confidential and will not be associated with your name or school.

If you have any questions please email [Ms. Kafui Doe](#), health education manager, or call (202) 741-6484.

Reminder: Serve on the DC CAS Health and Physical Education Advisory Board

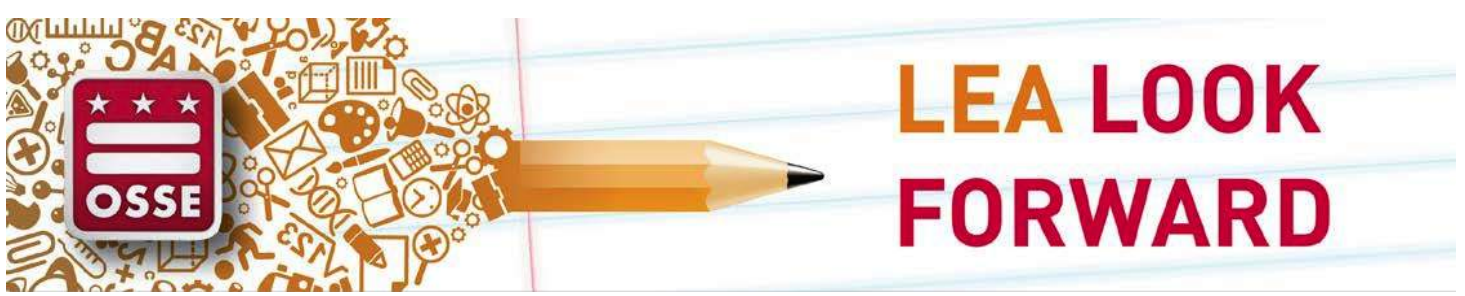
OSSE is recruiting health and physical education teachers at all grade levels to advise on the future content, structure, and delivery of the DC CAS Health and Physical Education.

This advisory board will meet approximately four times a year and will be expected to participate in the content and bias review sessions for new test items.

Please email [Grace Friedberger](#) to indicate your interest in joining the board.

Reminder: DC Anti-Bullying Safe Schools Initiative for School-based Staff

OSSE invites you and your school staff to participate in a professional development opportunity on the creation and/or affirmation of safe school environments.



Division of Wellness and Nutrition Services (Continued)

Co-sponsored by OSSE and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), the goal of the 1.5 day PD session is to provide participants with the knowledge, skills and resources to create safe and affirming school environments for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

Sessions will be led by certified facilitators from OSSE, DC Public Schools (DCPS) and local government and community based organizations at no cost to participants.

The training course runs over two days, and both days are required to complete sessions. Day one is 8 hours and day two is 4.5 hours. [Indicate your interest to participate in the training.](#)

For questions and inquiries please email [Julie Ost](#) and mention the DC Anti-Bullying Safe Schools Initiative.





LEA LOOK FORWARD

Office of Data, Assessment, and Research

Reminder: SLED System Trainings

The Office of Data Management & Assessment will host a Statewide Longitudinal Education Data (SLED) System training for new SLED users on November 3 & 10, 2014 from 1pm–2pm. The training sessions will take place at 1333 F Street NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC. To register for either training session, please email SLED.info@dc.gov.

Reminder: Data Collection – Students Born Outside US

The annual Students Born Outside of US collection for federal reporting will be released to the LEAs October 1, 2014. This collection will end November 2, 2014. OSSE is collecting student-level data that focuses students status for SY 2013-2014. For more information, please contact [Tonia Lovelace](#).

Reminder: Assessments – 2015 Save the Dates

The NCSC ELA/Mathematics testing window is March 28, 2015–May 16, 2015.

The DC CAS Alt Science Portfolio window closes March 6, 2015.

ACCESS for ELLs testing window is April 27, 2015–May 28, 2015.

Reminder: Notice of LEA Faculty and Staff Data Collections

LEA Faculty and Staff data, (1) Roster and (2) Teacher Shortage Areas – November 3 to December 3, 2014

Two data collections for Faculty and Staff data are being conducted between November 3 and December 3. The first collection is the Faculty and Staff Roster, which lists an LEA's employees and contractors.

The second collection is the Teacher Shortage Areas Report, which is an aggregate report counting Highly Qualified teachers, non-Highly Qualified teachers, and vacant teacher FTEs.

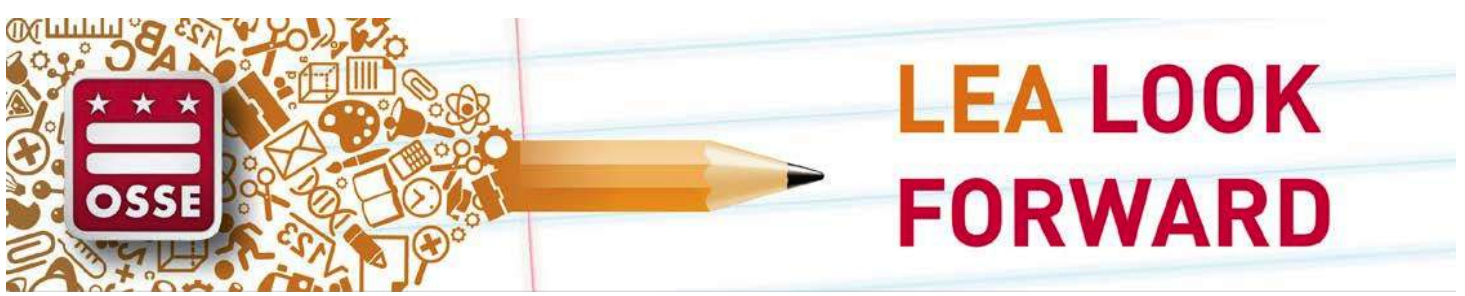
The data collections commence Monday, November 3, 2014, and end Wednesday, December 3, 2014. The dates and deadline of Wednesday, December 3, 2014, are not flexible due to federal reporting constraints.

Templates and instructions will be sent separately by Friday, October 3, 2014. If you should have any questions, please contact [Doreen Christian](#) or call (202) 737-8320.

Reminder: Guidance on the Identification and Screening of English language learners (ELL)

OSSE guidance on the identification and screening of English language learners is located on the [OSSE website](#). LEAs must screen potential ELL students using OSSE approved English language proficiency assessments.

For questions and concerns, contact [Michelle Blakey-Tuggle](#)



Office of Data Assessment and Research (Continued)

Reminder: PARCC Accommodations and Accessibility Features Updates

LEAs are invited to visit the [OSSE Testing Accommodations webpage](#) to view updated information on PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations. Under Additional PARCC Resources, are three DC CAS accommodations crosswalks entitled:

- [PARCC Accessibility Features versus DC CAS Accommodations](#)
- [PARCC Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [PARCC Accommodations for English Language Learner](#)

For questions and inquiries please contact [Michelle Blakey-Tuggle](#).

Reminder: National Center State Collaborative (NCSC) Fall Field Test

In SY 2014-2015 students with significant cognitive disabilities will transition to a new alternate assessment, the [National Center State Collaborative \(NCSC\)](#). The current assessment, the [DC CAS Alt](#) will remain only for Science during the transition to the new science standards. Read about the [Alternate Assessment Registration Window](#).

In preparation for the Operational NCSC assessment, schools are encouraged to participate in the Pilot Test II from Monday, October 20, 2014–Friday, November 14, 2014.

- Pilot Test 2 will test students in grades 4–9 and 12.
- Only one content area will be assigned to each participating student (ELA or Math)
- Test Administrator training modules from Pilot Test 1 remain the same.

[Register for Pilot Test 2](#) before Friday, September 19, 2014.

Contact michelle.blakey-tuggle@dc.gov for registration template.

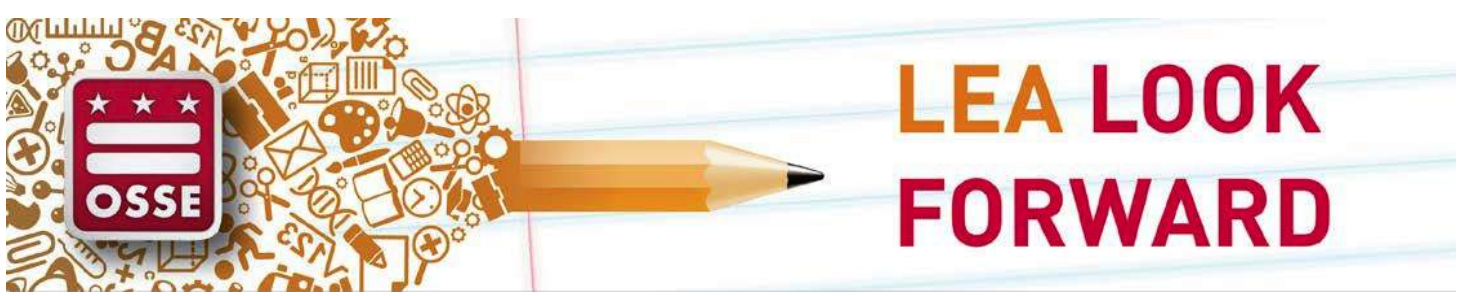
Reminder: Updated Entry and Exit Code Documentation Posted

Updated entry and exit code documentation for the 2014-2015 school year is now available on the OSSE website. Updates include:

- Extended Entry and Exit Code Guidance
- Excel version of entry and exit codes
- Webinar Slides

Please visit the [Entry Codes Exit Codes and Enrollment web page](#) to download the documentation. If you were unable to attend a training webinar during the month of July, please review the documentation as there have been significant updates to OSSE entry and exit codes for the coming school year.

For questions and inquiries, please contact [Sarah Sherman](#).



Office of Data Assessment and Research (Continued)

Reminder: Data Collection Calendar for LEAs

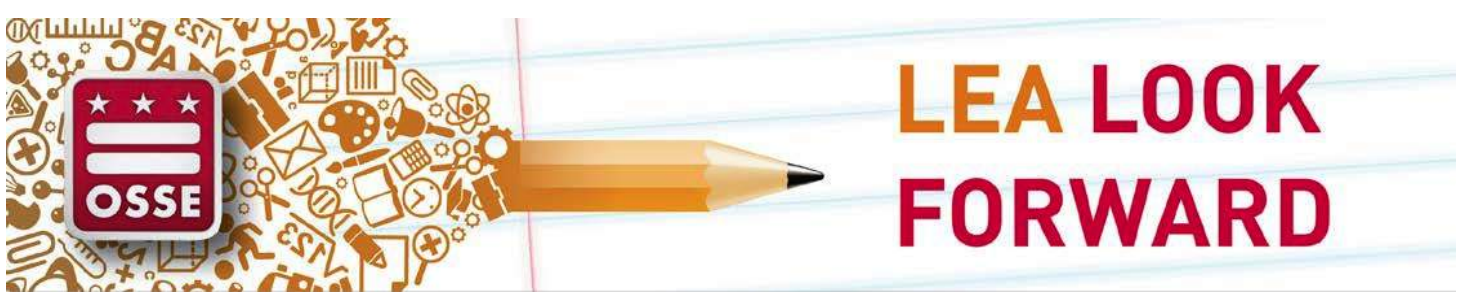
OSSE ODAR has released an updated data collection calendar for LEAs.

Collection Type	Data Collection Start Date	Data Collection Closes
Attendance	9/19/2014	10/20/2014
Discipline	9/19/2014	10/20/2014
Dropout Confirmation	9/1/2014	9/30/2014
Students Born Outside of the US	10/1/2014	11/1/2014
Staff: Faculty and Staff Roster	11/3/2014	12/3/2014
*Teacher Shortage Areas Report	11/3/2014	12/3/2014
School Improvement Grant	11/15/2014	12/15/2014
Neglected & Delinquent	12/12/2014	1/12/2015
Staff: HQ Claims	1/5/2015	2/18/2015
ACCESS Roster Verification	2/14/2015	3/14/2015
Graduation Cohort	3/15/2015	4/30/2015
Financial	4/1/2015	4/30/2015
Staff: Teacher and Principal Evaluations and Retention	7/1/2015	8/15/2015

***Extensions cannot be granted**

Reminder: NCSC and DC CAS Alt Science for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Students in grades 3–8 and 11 with significant cognitive disabilities are eligible to participate in the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) and DC CAS Alt Science assessment. Please contact [Michelle Tuggle](#) for more information.



Office of Data Assessment and Research (Continued)

Reminder: LEA Data Meeting Schedule

LEA Data Discussion Meetings will take place at 810 First Street, NE, on the 3rd floor Grand Hall.

- Thursday, November 20, 2014; 11am–12pm
- Thursday, December 11, 2014; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, January 22, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, February 26, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, March 26, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, April 30, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, May 28, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, June 25, 2015; 11am–12:30pm
- Thursday, July 30, 2015; 11am–12:30pm

Meeting invites and agendas will be sent before each meeting to LEA Heads of School and Data Managers. Please contact [Imani Stutely](#) if you have any questions.

Reminder: 2015 ACCESS for ELL Testing Window: April 27, 2015–May 30, 2015

A testing window is available for English Language Learners to participate in the annual English Language Proficiency test (ACCESS for ELL students) between the following dates: April 27, 2015–May 30, 2015. For question and inquiries please contact [Michelle Blakey-Tuggle](#).

Reminder: NCSC and DC CAS Alt Science Webinar Series

OSSE is excited to offer a [series of webinars](#) to help build educator capacity as we transition to the National Center State Collaborative (NCSC) Alternate Assessment that is aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

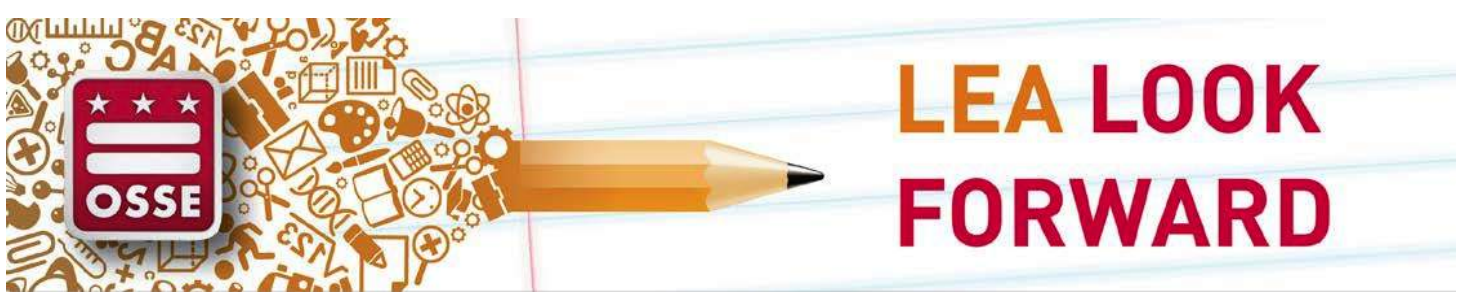
Reminder: Planning for Automated Data Transfer (ADT) Maintenance

There are three types of maintenance of the ADT System:

- System Maintenance
- Major Release Maintenance
- Patch/Emergency Release Maintenance

[Access Planning Automated Data Transfer ADT Maintenance.](#)





Office of Grants Management and Compliance

Reminder: Reimbursement Requests in EGMS

All grant reimbursement requests for Fiscal Year 2015 Grant Funds will be made through EGMS. Once the request has been approved, the reimbursement process can take up to 30 days. Grantees will receive reimbursement via check or direct deposit. Grantees will be able to view the status of their request via [EGMS](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- How do I access EGMS?
 - You may request credentials by completing the New User form through the EGMS landing page at grants.osse.dc.gov
- I have been awarded grant funds from OSSE, where may I find the reimbursement request?
 - Login to EGMS, locate your grant and click on the Payments button.
- I submitted my reimbursement request through EGMS, how long will it take to receive a check?
 - The district policy is to allow 30 days for processing after submission of reimbursement information.
- My reimbursement request was rejected, how do I view the reason why it was rejected?
 - From the Payments screen, select the reimbursement in question and click on Review Summary. This will allow you to view the Review Checklist and read OSSE program comments.
- Who do I contact if I need assistance with my reimbursement request?
 - You can contact the OSSE Helpdesk at 202-719-6500 or email osse.callcenter@dc.gov.

Reminder: Fiscal Year 2015 Reimbursement Requests from OSSE

All FY 15 funds will only be reimbursed through our Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS). As grants are rolled out, training and technical assistance (T and T/A) will be provided for LEA's applying for those grants. Please continue to look here and/or on the EGMS homepage for information on training videos/webinars that OSSE will provide in the near future on this topic. As always, if you experience any problems while using EGMS, including the Reimbursement Request function when it becomes available, call the Help Desk at (202) 719-6500 or email osse.callcenter@dc.gov.

Reminder: US Department of Education Provides State Education Agencies Guidance Regarding the Use of Funds under Title I, Part A: Providing Services to Homeless Children and Youth

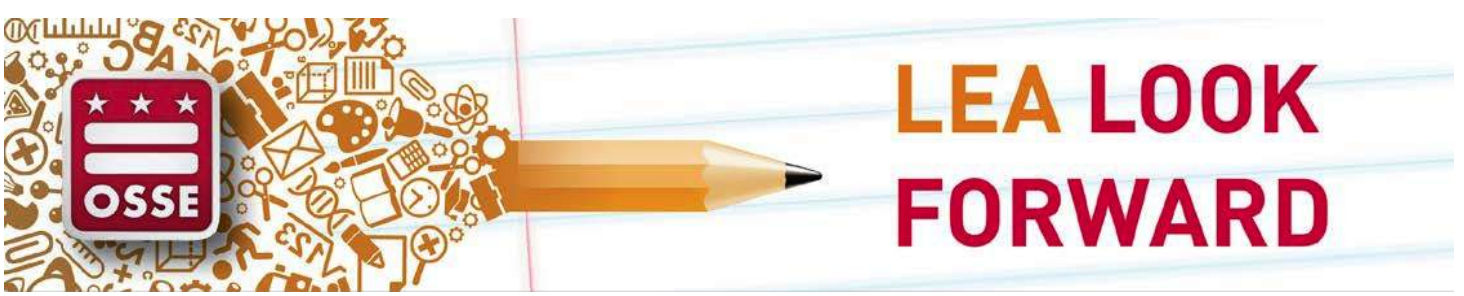
On January 17, 2014, the President signed into law H.R. 3547, the omnibus funding bill for Federal Fiscal Year 2014 (FFY14). The United States Department of Education (ED) has provided State Education Agencies (SEAs) with guidance regarding the use of funds under Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary



LEA LOOK FORWARD



LEA LOOK FORWARD



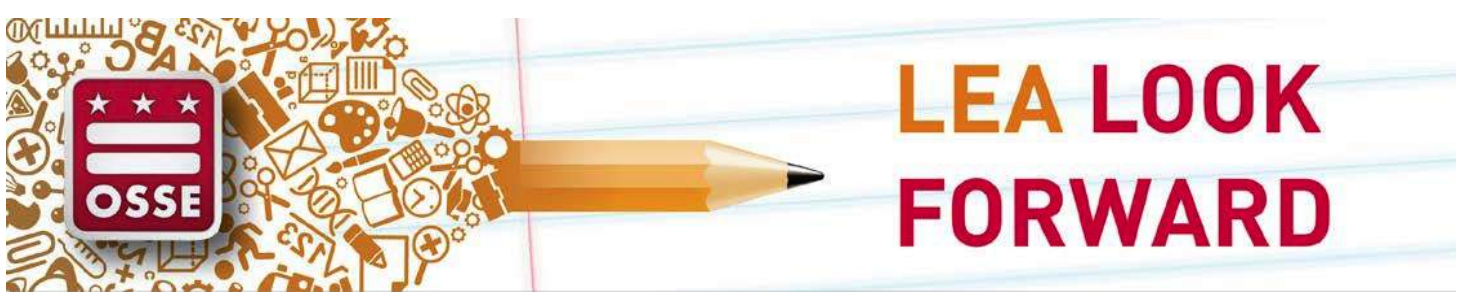
Disabilities



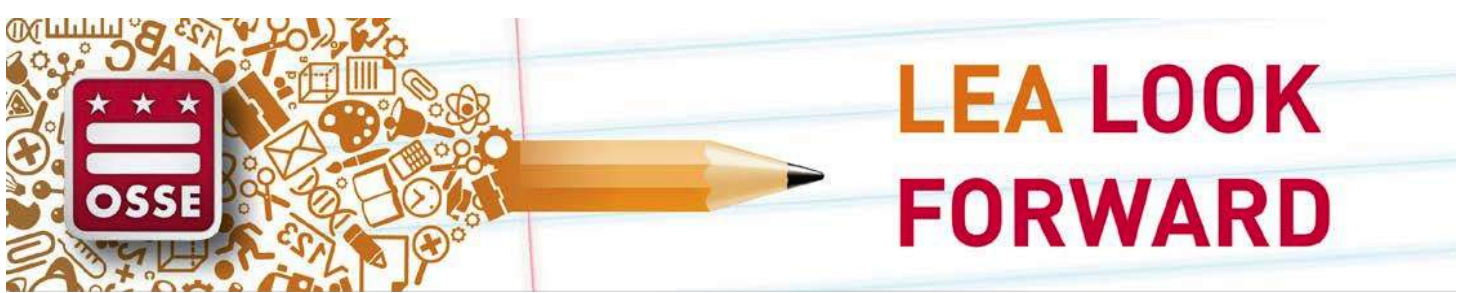
LEA LOOK FORWARD



LEA LOOK FORWARD



and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), to provide services to homeless children and youth.



Office of Grants Management and Compliance (Continued)

The following changes are now allowable for use of Title I allocation funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014.

[View Letter to State Title I and Homeless Education Coordinators](#)

For more information, please contact [Timothy Richardson](#)



General Announcements

New: Ebola, Enterovirus D68 & Flu: Strategies for Child Care, Schools

There are numerous news reports about the epidemic of [Enterovirus D68](#) affecting many children, and now the [Ebola virus](#).

To ensure the health of all children in childcare and school settings, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends caregivers and teachers continue the current procedures already in place to manage infectious diseases (e.g. immunizations, infection control, and proper exclusion practices).

Children with Enterovirus D68, for example, may have symptoms that look similar to children with the common cold, the flu, or other respiratory viruses. Remember, it is not the job of caregivers and schools to diagnose children.

There are steps that child care providers, facilities, and schools can take to prevent the spread of infection and illness, including having policies that encourage:

- Routine childhood and adult [immunizations](#)
- [Handwashing and hand hygiene](#).
- Infection control measures such as [sanitation, disinfection, and maintenance](#).
- Excluding (*sending home*) children if the illness prevents the child from participating comfortably from activities, results in a need for care that is greater than staff members can provide (*without compromising the care of other children*), or poses a risk of harmful diseases to others
- Preparing in advance for infectious disease [outbreaks or epidemics](#)

By following these recommendations, you will be doing your part to maintain a healthy environment for all the children in your care, regardless of illness.