General Information

2016-2017 Special Education Consolidated Grant
The last date to submit amendments to the 2016-2017 SPED grant is June 16, 2017.
Contact Linda McDaniel, linda.mcdaniel@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5225.

2017-2018 Special Education Consolidated Grant
The new application will open in TEASE/TEAL in June. See the Budget Preparation Checklist and the Needs Assessment sample provided into today’s materials and in the SPED Director’s Survival Guide Livebinder.
New schedule in 2018-2019 SPED Consolidated. Practice this year for the 2017-2018 grant!
Conduct needs assessment and develop plan for IDEA-B funding. Identify needs. Prioritize highest 3. Set Goals/Outcomes & Performance Measures. Tie at least one Goal to TEA Priorities:
1. Recruit, support and retain teachers and principals.
2. Build a foundation of reading and math.
3. Connect high school to career and college.
4. Improve low performing schools.
5. Other LEA determined
Contact Linda McDaniel, linda.mcdaniel@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5225.

2017 Leadership Symposium
A leadership symposium provided by Region 13 for leaders at LEAs. See the handout in resources. Visit http://events.esc13.net/leadership for more information.
Contact Anna Warren anna.warren@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5238.

HB5
TEA is conducting a survey to obtain feedback about implementation of HB 5 requirements. The superintendent for the district (as listed in AskTED) will be receiving notification of the survey from a contracted agency. See the TAA letter from March 20 for more information. There is no action required for special educators unless requested as part of the survey process within your district. Sharing as an FYI only.
Contact: Elizabeth Danner elizabeth.danner@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5182.

High Cost Fund Application
Opening of the HCF application has been delayed until the week of April 17th. The closing deadline has been extended to May 19th. Continue to prepare documentation for quick submission once the application is open.
Contact Ann Jinkins, ann.jinkins@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5207.

RF Tracker
Districts with Residential Care and Treatment Facilities (RF) within their geographic boundaries and/or jurisdiction must report the students with disabilities that reside in that facility in the RF Tracker data
collection system. The TEA posted a To the Administrator Addressed letter on their website on March 28, 2017 that referenced the following:

1. Districts access the RF Tracker through their TEASE account. How to access this account is explained in the letter.
2. The end-of-year date for districts reporting that students with disabilities reside in an RF is on or before May 12, 2017. Any student with disabilities that resides in an RF that enrolls in your district after May 12, 2017 will not be reported in the RF Tracker for this year.
3. Districts must complete the 2016-17 data collection no later than June 12, 2017.
Contact Ann Jinkins, ann.jinkins@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5207.

SPP
All SPP applications close August 16, 2017. Please note that the 10 digit Unique ID (UID), required in district reporting through the Texas Student Data Systems (TSDS), will replace the use of the student’s social security number. Be sure to subscribe to the Special Education Leaders blog to receive updates and tips on the SPP applications. Region 13 staff can provide assistance with collecting and/or entering data.
Contact Elizabeth Danner elizabeth.danner@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5182 or Lori Merrell lori.merrell@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5424.

SLP Services
Speech-Language Pathology services are available through the service center. Services include evaluation, direct services, supervision of speech assistants and CF speech interns. Call to discuss contracting for services for the remainder of this school year or for 2017-18!
Contact Tracey Easley-Card tracey.easley-card@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5109.

State Fiscal Compliance Monitoring Program: Special Allotments Monitoring Program (SAMP)
TEA is implementing a new monitoring program to focus on ensuring the LEA’s compliance and accountability related to the supplemental state allotment programs listed below. These programs have mandated direct expenditure requirements:
- Special Education: 52% (PIC 23 and 33)
- Compensatory Education (SCE): 52%
- Bilingual Education: 52%
- Career and Technical Education (CTE): 58%
- Gifted and Talented Education (GT): 55%
- High School Education: 100%

The Special Allotment funds are included in the LEA’s Summary of Finance. Compliance is not based solely on spending the correct percentage on direct costs. LEAs must also spend appropriately according to allowable use of funds. If the LEA meets the correct percentage but the expenditures were for unallowable costs, the LEA is out of compliance. ESC 13 offered a workshop on this topic earlier in the year for Business Managers.

What this means for Directors? At the LEA level, auditors will look at Comprehensive Needs Assessment, Campus and District Improvement Plans or Charter Instructional Plans, and the Budget. Auditors may also review IEPs to ensure student costs for assessing their needs are appropriately and accurately documented.

Who Monitored? TEA identifies LEAs with underutilized supplemental state allotment program funds using a 3-year average calculation. TEA notifies LEA by letter to come into compliance. TEA will provide corrective action plans or conduct further monitoring review.
Contact Linda McDaniel linda.mcdaniel@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5225.
Resource Information

The Library at ESC Region 13
Assistive Technology Preview Center
Contact: Robin Reimund robin.reimund@esc13.txed.net or 512-919-5165.

LiveBinders
- Accommodations Central: [http://tinyurl.com/accomcentral](http://tinyurl.com/accomcentral)
- FIEP (Facilitated IEP) LiveBinder [http://tinyurl.com/IEP-Facilitation](http://tinyurl.com/IEP-Facilitation)
- Special Education Director’s Calendar [https://teamup.com/ksd0a557f617970b71](https://teamup.com/ksd0a557f617970b71)
- Special Education Funding: [http://www5.esc13.net/thescoop/spptexas](http://www5.esc13.net/thescoop/spptexas)

Blogs
All ESC 13 blogs may be accessed at [http://www5.esc13.net/thescoop/blogs/](http://www5.esc13.net/thescoop/blogs/)

Special education specific Blogs

Web Sites:
- Parent Companion – First Five Years [www.parentcompanion.org](http://www.parentcompanion.org)
- Texas Statewide Leadership for Autism Training [http://txautism.net/](http://txautism.net/)

Calendar Information

2016-2017 SELN Meetings:
- May 11, 2017 - #SP1734827

2016-2017 Curriculum Council Meetings:
- Registration # FA1634324
  - May 4, 2017 - Virtual Meeting Only
  - June 1, 2017 - Virtual Meeting Only
  - August 3, 2017 - Virtual Meeting Only