School Year 2020-2021
Monitoring Updates

Special Education Directors’ Check-In
July 2020

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OSEP Changes Related to Differentiated Monitoring Activities

December 2019 OSEP guidance clarified reporting of indicator data in the APR

- Requirement excludes the use of pre-correction data for purposes of APR reporting
- Issuance of findings has to occur within three months of the identification by the SEA of the noncompliance
Why This Is Important

Previous OSEP interpretations were based on state definition of a finding.

Current OSEP interpretation does not include an SEA definition of a finding but defines identification of noncompliance is when the SEA “sees” the noncompliance.

Self-assessment and data review monitoring systems allowed for pre-reporting correction and issued findings in accordance with the state definition of a finding.
Changes Required to Conform

For DR and SA, due dates have been adjusted and moved up.

Differentiated activities further allow for early completion based on level of noncompliance.
Due Date Changes

- Added more check-ins along the way to ensure PEAs stay on track
- Midpoint validation will be finalized by February 12, 2021
- Final verification process will be finalized by April 30, 2021
Process Changes

PSM specialists will utilize a tracking form to assist in communication with the PEA and outline next steps in the process.

At the validation point, if the PEA evidences individual level of correction in all line items (90% compliant or better), as determined by the draft Summary of Findings (SOF), the PEA will not complete a subsequent file review.
So What about COVID-19?

- No federal waivers regarding monitoring activities or APR reporting so... monitoring activities must occur.
- Adjustments to due dates for SA and DR will be made based on statewide mandates, only if needed.
- Onsite monitoring dates cannot be moved.
- Onsite monitoring activities will be adjusted and individualized to PEA circumstances as needed.
- As has been ESS practice, ESS will not access IEP software systems to review files.
Next Steps

- Monitoring Manual will be released
- Complete due dates for SA and DR processes will be released
- Internal training for PSM specialists on new processes
- Webinar for PEAs to assist in understanding process and PEA Q&A
  - July 27
  - July 28
Questions?

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