

*** WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE IDEA: STATE PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (SPD) PROGRAM WHICH IS INCLUDED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT?**

THE PROGRAM INCLUDED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS AUTHORIZED UNDER PART D OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, TITLED "NATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES". THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIFIC GOAL FOR THE IDEA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS IS "to link best scientifically-based practices to states, school systems, and families to improve results for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities." The goal, objectives and performance indicators for this program is as follows:

Goal 8: To assist State educational agencies in reforming and improving their systems for providing educational, early intervention and transitional services, including their systems of professional development, technical assistance and dissemination of knowledge about best practices, to improve results for children with disabilities.

Objective 8.1: State Improvement grant projects will use research based knowledge to support systems change and professional development activities.

Indicator 8.1.1: **RESEACH-BASED PROJECTS:** By 2005, all SPD grant projects will use research-based knowledge to support systems change and professional development activities.

Objective 8.2: The SPD grants program will result in systems change consistent with State-identified needs.

Indicator 8.2.1: **SCALED-UP RESEARCH:** By 2007 the number of SPD grant projects that "scale-up" research-based State initiatives such as reading, behavior and other targeted areas through professional development and other activities will increase.

Indicator 8.2.2: **STATE DISSEMINATION SYSTEMS:** By 2007, the number of States that enhance their State systems to disseminate research-based practices to teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, related services personnel, policy makers and other members of the educational community will increase.

Indicator 8.2.3: **PERFORMANCE OF CHILDREN:** By 2007, there will an increase in the number of States with improved performance of children with disabilities based on SPD grants professional development activities in areas such as reading, behavior, math, dissemination of research-based practices, recruitment/retention of staff, and other State-identified needs.

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) will collect information to assess progress and performance by requiring the applicant to report evaluation data in the projects' annual performance reports (EDGAR, 34 CFR 75.590). See Performance Measures on page **B-11** of the Priority Description section of this application package

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The goal of the State Personnel Development Grants Program is to reform and improve State systems for personnel preparation and professional development in early intervention, educational, and transition services in order to improve results for children with disabilities.

Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department is currently working to develop measures that will yield information on various aspects of performance consistent with the program's purpose. When implemented, each grantee will be required to submit data documenting its performance on these measures. In addition, the applicant's proposed project evaluation must describe the extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data on the project's contribution to the reform and improvement of such systems.

If funded, the applicant will be expected to report such data in the projects' annual performance reports (34 CFR 75.590). Data should reflect how States have used State Personnel Development Grant funding, in addition to State resources, to reform and improve their systems for personnel preparation and professional development.

* From Special Education--State Program Improvement Grants for Children with Disabilities (FY 2005 application for grant). Located at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepsig/applicant.html> (downloaded July 5, 2005) Pages 64-65 and B-11.