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NETWORKER

Connecting you with updates and resources to help drive results for children with disabilities.

The National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI) aims to help states transform their systems and support their districts and local early intervention service programs in improving educational results and functional outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and for children and youth with disabilities. Keep up to date with recent products, webinars, resources, and announcements at www.ncsi.wested.org or by following NCSI on Twitter at [@TheNCSI](https://twitter.com/TheNCSI).

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TA in Action

Developing Tools to Ensure Coherence in the Face of Change

State educational agencies and lead agencies, particularly in Part C, face real challenges from staff turnover. Members of the social emotional outcomes cross-state learning collaborative—representing Alaska, Maryland, North Carolina, and Texas—developed two resources that states can use to create coherence in the face of such change. [My Position Roadmap](#) is a fillable PDF file in which staff document the technical and adaptive elements of their job. This resource documents the “five W’s” of a position, including what the role looks like, who they interact with, where key resources are located, and more. The second resource, [Exit Interview Questions](#), includes a list of key questions that can be used to explore the reasons why someone is leaving a job and how that information can be used to shape positions to better retain staff in the future. These resources can be used as is or adapted to meet your context.

Vermont and Oklahoma Working Together on Results-Based Accountability

At the NCSI cross-state learning collaborative convening in October 2018, Oklahoma staff shared their revised General Supervision manual with the Results-Based Accountability Collaborative. At this time, Vermont began to reflect on its general supervision system and ways to amplify the state’s focus on improving results while continuing to ensure compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Vermont planned a 2-day, onsite meeting in February 2019 to initiate a comprehensive review of its general supervision system and invited NCSI staff (including Susan Hayes, Kathleen Pfannenstiel, and Kate Nagle) and Ginger Elliott-Teague, Oklahoma’s Part B data manager and coordinator of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), to support the process. The team used NCSI’s new resource,

[Leveraging General Supervision Systems to Improve Student Outcomes: A Process Guide for IDEA Part B](#), to structure and guide the conversation. During this face-to-face event, the Vermont special education team—along with representatives from the multi-tiered system of supports team, the fiscal team, and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) team—reviewed current processes and identified strategies for increasing the state’s focus on improving results and ways to integrate SSIP, ESSA, and fiscal elements into the work of the special education team. Vermont is excited to dive into the work ahead and is hopeful that a revised General Supervision manual will be ready to be piloted soon!

Do you have a TA question? Don’t forget that you can submit a question to [Ask the NCSI](#) or your TA Facilitator, or contact NCSI at NCSI@wested.org or 866-664-8471.

NCSI Products and Tools

NCSI continues to develop resources and other supports to assist states during Phase III of the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

Leading by Convening Self-Paced Modules and User Guide

Have you heard about Leading by Convening but don’t really know what it is? Are you interested in learning how to authentically engage stakeholders or improve your stakeholder engagement efforts? Would you like to share information about Leading by Convening with others?

NCSI is excited to release the full set of [five self-paced learning modules](#) that provide a comprehensive introduction to Leading by Convening:

- [Module 1: Authentic Engagement](#)
- [Module 2: Coalescing Around the Issue](#)
- [Module 3: Ensuring Relevant Participation](#)
- [Module 4: Doing the Work Together](#)
- [Module 5: Reviewing and Reflecting on Engagement Over Time](#)



These five modules range from 30 to 60 minutes, depending on the time devoted to learning activities. A companion [user guide](#) describes how the modules can be used as an individual self-study or facilitated through professional learning networks or communities or traditional workshops. The learning modules and the companion user guide are available on the [NCSI website](#).

Coaching Module Part 2: Measuring the Fidelity of Coaching

[Measuring the Fidelity of Coaching](#) is the second in a series of self-paced, professional development learning modules that NCSI has developed on coaching for teachers who work in the kindergarten–12th-grade setting. [Module 1](#) focused on effective practices for coaches. [Module 2](#) addresses how to measure the fidelity of coaching practices to increase their impact on teaching and learning. The module also features other resources:

- [Effective Coaching of Teachers: Fidelity Tool Worksheet](#)
- [Effective Coaching of Teachers: Completed Sample of the Fidelity Tool Worksheet](#)
- [Effective Coaching of Teachers: Fidelity Tool Rubric](#)

Although this module reviews the concept of fidelity and key components of fidelity, we strongly recommend watching Module 1 to fully enhance the coaching of teachers. [View both modules in the NCSI resource library](#).

Do you have questions about using these tools or need support to implement them effectively? Contact us at NCSI@wested.org.

Mark Your Calendars

- Stakeholder Engagement Chats, June 14, 2019, 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET. [Learn more about the chats and share with colleagues](#).



- [Office of Special Education Programs \(OSEP\) Symposium](#)
[Session: Retaining Personnel to Serve Children with Disabilities](#),
May 15, 2019.
 - Part C, Cross-State Learning Collaborative's Face-to-Face Event,
May 29–30, 2019, at the Sheraton Hotel, Atlanta, GA.
 - Part B, Cross-State Learning Collaborative's Face-to-Face Event,
June 5–6, 2019, at the DoubleTree Minneapolis Park Place,
Minneapolis, MN.
 - [OSEP Leadership Conference](#), July 22–24, 2019, at the Crystal
Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA
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State Spotlights

How do we facilitate sustained change at the local level and scale up to a large workforce across the state?

The New York State Department of Health, which serves as the Part C lead agency for the New York State Early Intervention Program, recognized the challenges in effecting lasting change across a large and diverse workforce in a complex system. As part of implementing its SSIP, the state of New York selected the Breakthrough Series model, from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, to create an environment of systemic quality improvement. [View the state spotlight to learn more about how the state implemented the Breakthrough Series, the impact of the strategies they implemented, and recommendations for other states.](#)

If you would like to be spotlighted, contact us at NCSI@wested.org.

Partner Resources to Support SSIP Implementation

Multiple May Webinars and Events from Technical Assistance & Dissemination Centers

OSEP TA&D Centers are hosting a variety of webinars in May 2019 that may be helpful for states as they support districts and local early intervention service programs.

- The National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII) is hosting “Recommendations and Resources for Preparing Educators in the Endrew Era” on May 8 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET. [Click here to register.](#)
- The Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) is hosting “[Let's Work Together! Building Local Capacity with CADRE's Online Learning Resources](#)” on May 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. ET. [Click here to register.](#)
- The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy) and NCSI are Hosting “[Telling Your Data Story With an Infographic Workshop Series—Part 2](#)” on May 16 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET. [Click here to register.](#) Although not required, participants are encouraged to have participated in the first session.
- DaSy is hosting “[Learn the Signs Act Early: Collaboration to Increase Developmental Monitoring and Earlier Identification](#)” on May 22 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET. [Click here to register.](#)
- DaSy and the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA) are hosting “[Multi-Tiered Systems of Support in Early Childhood Webinar](#)” on May 29 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET. [Click here to register.](#)

National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) Recent Resources

In February 2019, NCEO released [Data Analytics: Percent of Students with Disabilities by Disability Categories for 2005-06 to 2016-17](#). This interactive online resource includes information about the percentage of students with disabilities, as indicated in an Individualized Education Program (IEPs), for each of the 13 disabilities categories for all 50 states. The resource presents an overview of the

percentage of students with disabilities per state, trends over time, the percentage of students for each disability category, and state profiles.

In March 2019, NCEO also released [Diploma Options, Graduation Requirements, and Exit Exams for Youth with Disabilities: 2017 National Study](#). This report updates the status of graduation policies across the nation, including a look at graduation requirements and exit exams, diploma options, and more. Find these resources and other information on the [NCEO website](#).

The IRIS Center Releases New Module on IEPs

[IEPs: Developing High-Quality Individualized Education Programs](#) is designed for use by faculty in preservice courses, for those conducting professional development trainings, and for both novice and experienced educators. This module discusses the requirements for IEPs, as outlined in IDEA, with implications of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District*. The module can be used by those with little prior knowledge as well as those who are interested in exploring specific areas in more depth. [View the module here](#).

Updates from ED

OSEP Symposium Series 2019 Focuses on Preparing, Retaining, and Attracting Personnel to Serve Students with Disabilities

On April 8, 2019, OSEP hosted the first of a three-part virtual symposia series focused on strategies to prepare, retain, and attract effective personnel—general and special education teachers, early childhood personnel, and related services providers—who have the knowledge and skills needed to provide effective instruction, interventions, supports, and services to children with disabilities. The first session focused on preparing personnel to serve children with disabilities. [View the archived recording and other event resources](#). The second session in the series will be held May 15, 2019, and will focus on retaining personnel. [Click here to register for the May 15 session](#). The final session in the series will be held on August 14, 2019, and will focus on attracting personnel. Stay up to date with information about the symposia series on the [OSEP Ideas that Work Website](#).

Save the Date for OSEP Leadership Conference July 22-24

Have you registered yet for the [OSEP Leadership Conference](#)? NCSI, state partners, and staff from many other TA&D centers and the U.S. Department of Education will present sessions and posters focused on sustaining success through proactive leadership, tackling equity by looking at whole systems analysis for improvement, using data to build the capacities and outcomes of local education agencies, and more. The conference will be held July 22–24, 2019, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The conference is intended for Part B state directors and agency staff who work across federal programs, Part C directors and 619 coordinators and their staff, directors and staff of Parent Training Centers, Part B and Part C data managers, Part D technical assistance providers, State Advisory Councils, State Interagency Coordinating Councils, and staff from OSEP and the U.S. Department of Education. The [OSEP Ideas That Work website](#) contains more information about the conference. [Click here to register](#).

Do you have suggestions for resources or topics that we can cover in the newsletter? Send them to us at NCSI@wested.org.

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