



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

Honorable Alvin Jackson
Director
Ohio Department of Health
PO Box 118
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266

Dear Director Jackson:

Thank you for the timely submission of Ohio's FFY 2006 Annual Performance Report (APR) and revised State Performance Plan (SPP) under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended in 2004. We also acknowledge the revisions to Ohio's APR received on April 14, 2008. We appreciate the State's efforts in preparing these documents.

The Department has determined that, under IDEA sections 616(d) and 642, Ohio needs assistance in meeting the requirements of Part C of the IDEA. The Department's determination is based on the totality of the State's data and information including the State's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP, other State-reported data, and other publicly available information. See the enclosure entitled "How the Department Made Determinations under Sections 616(d) and 642 of the IDEA in 2008" for further details.

The requirements of Indicators 1, 7, 8A, 8C and 9 are the subject of Ohio's November 2006 Compliance Agreement with the Department. This Agreement requires Ohio to ensure compliance by November 2009 with, and report progress on a quarterly basis regarding, Part C's timely service provision, 45-day timeline, IFSP transition content, timely transition conference and timely correction of noncompliance requirements. Specific factors affecting OSEP's determination of needs assistance for Ohio for FFY 2006 included: (1) for Indicator 1, the State reported 72.37% compliance with the timely service provision requirements; (2) for Indicator 7, the State reported 74% compliance with the 45-day timeline requirements; (3) for Indicator 8A, the State reported 94% compliance with IFSP transition content requirements; and (4) the State did not report correction for any indicators due to its new monitoring system implemented under the State's Compliance Agreement. For these reasons, we were unable to determine that your State met requirements under IDEA sections 616(d) and 642. OSEP notes that the State reported a high level of compliance for Indicator 8B and has provided in its December 2007 and March 2008 progress reports the required data for Indicators 8C and 9 under Ohio's Compliance Agreement with the Department. OSEP will respond separately to Ohio's progress reports under its Compliance Agreement.

The enclosed table provides OSEP's analysis of the State's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP and identifies, by indicator, OSEP's review of any revisions made by the State to its targets, improvement activities (timelines and resources) and baseline data in the State's SPP. It also identifies, by indicator, the State's status in meeting its targets, whether the

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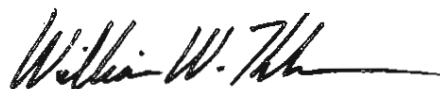
State's data reflect progress or slippage, and whether the State corrected noncompliance and provided valid and reliable data.

Your State may want to consider taking advantage of available sources of technical assistance. A list of sources of technical assistance related to the SPP/APR indicators is available by clicking on the "Technical Assistance Related to Determinations" box on the opening page of the SPP/APR Planning Calendar website at <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/>. You will be directed to a list of indicators. Click on specific indicators for a list of centers, documents, web seminars and other sources of relevant technical assistance for that indicator.

As you know, your State must report annually to the public on the performance of each early intervention service (EIS) program located in the State on the targets in the SPP under IDEA sections 616(b)(2)(C)(ii)(1) and 642. In addition, your State must review EIS program performance against targets in the State's SPP, determine if each EIS program meets the requirements of the IDEA and inform each EIS program of its determination. For further information regarding these requirements, see the SPP/APR Calendar at <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/>. Finally, if you included revisions to baseline, targets or improvement activities in your APR submission, and OSEP accepted those revisions, please ensure that you update your SPP accordingly and that the updated SPP is made available to the public.

OSEP is committed to supporting Ohio's efforts to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and looks forward to working with your State over the next year. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call Brenda Wilkins, your OSEP State Contact, at 202-245-6920.

Sincerely,



William W. Knudsen

Acting Director

Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

cc: Part C Coordinator