

Louisiana Believes

**How to Fund Your Special Education Plan:
The 2018-2019 IDEA Grant Application**

March Supervisors Collaboratives

Objectives and Agenda

Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to...

- explain the Special Education planning process for the 2018-2019 school year.
- use the strategy-based planning template for Special Education programs.
- explain how the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application reflects the strategy-based planning template.
- understand the Department's plan for providing additional support to school systems.

Agenda:

- I. Overview
- II. Purpose
- III. Strategy-Based Planning
Template: Review
- IV. Strategy-Based Planning
Template: Practice
- V. 2018-2019 IDEA Application
- VI. Additional Support

Objectives

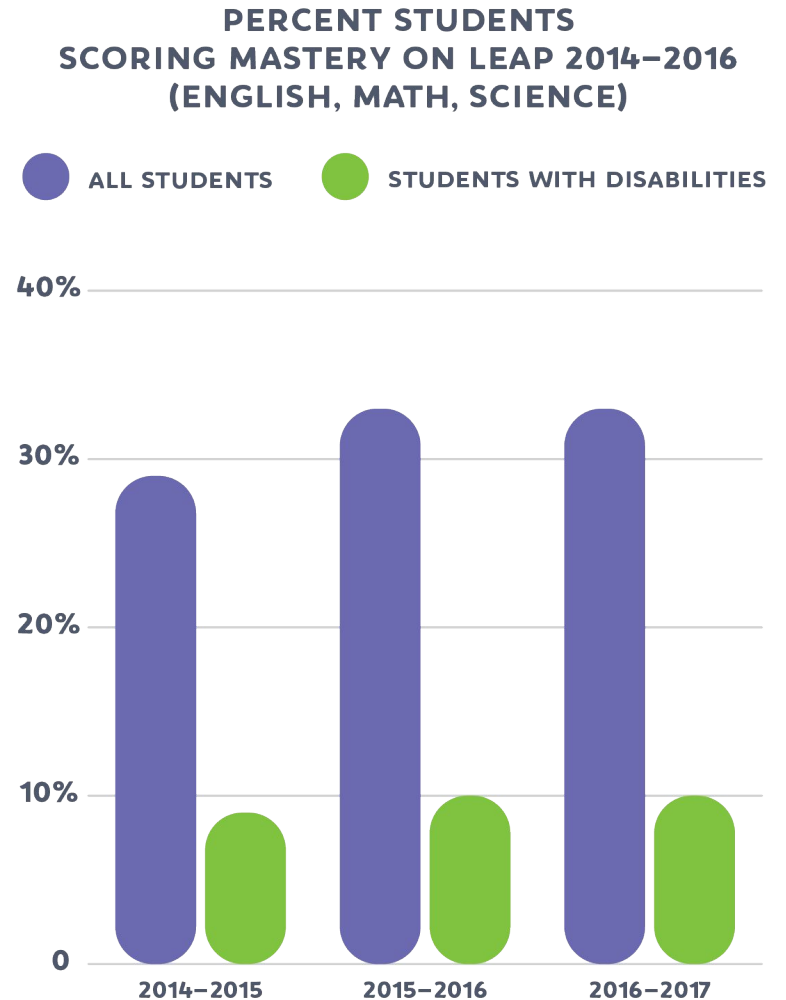
Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to...

- **explain the Special Education planning process for the 2018-2019 school year.**
- use the strategy-based planning template for Special Education programs.
- explain how the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application reflects the strategy-based planning template.
- understand the Department's plan for providing additional support to school systems.

Performance of Students with Disabilities

Louisiana believes that all students deserve an education that prepares them for postsecondary success and a lifetime of unlimited opportunity.

Our challenge, as a state, is to eliminate barriers to student success by building a seamless support system.



School Redesign: Subgroup Performance

Per Louisiana's ESSA plan, beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, schools will begin to be identified as Urgent Intervention Required (UIR) based on the performance of subgroups of students, including students with disabilities.

If identified, school systems will be required to submit redesign plans that address the performance of the subgroup of students with disabilities and to specifically describe their plans to address the four strategies detailed in [Strategies for Success: A Guidebook for Supporting Students with Disabilities](#).

Four Strategies: Improving Outcomes for Students with Disabilities

The Department has identified four strategies that lead to improved outcomes for students with disabilities:

1. Identify disabilities early and accurately
2. Provide high-quality instruction to ensure the achievement of ambitious IEP goals
3. Strengthen instruction with specialized supports and related services
4. Coordinate effective transition planning and implementation

Improving Outcomes for
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Continuum of Support: Implementing the Strategies



Guidance on Strategies and Key Actions: In Fall 2017, the Department released [Strategies for Success: A Guidebook for Supporting Students with Disabilities](#). The purpose of this guidebook is to provide principals and school system leaders with resources to create strong support plans.

Strategy—Based Planning Template: Designed to support school systems in developing plans for addressing each of the strategies and associated key actions.

IDEA Application: Restructured to reflect the strategy-based planning template and to support school systems in directing funds to support their Special Education plans.

The Strategy-Based Planning Template: Expectations

The Department has created a strategy-based planning template intended to be a support for school systems to use as they build their plans for Special Education in the 2018-2019 school year and direct IDEA funds* to support those plans.

While the Department is not requiring school systems to submit completed planning templates, school systems are encouraged to utilize this planning template during their 2018-2019 planning process.

***Important Note:** This planning process will NOT impact the amount of a school system's IDEA allocation. These allocations are based on a standard formula and methodology that are not impacted by this shift.

Strategy-Based Planning Template

Take five minutes to review the strategy-based planning template. Working independently, consider the following questions:

- In what ways do you anticipate the planning template could support you in considering how you'll implement each of the strategies?
- In what ways does the planning template give flexibility to determine priorities that may be unique to your school system?
- Are there parts of the template you feel more confident about completing? Parts of the template where you anticipate needing support from others within your school system?

The Strategy-Based Planning Template: Logic Flow

To develop plans for each of the four strategies, school systems will use the following process:

Create the
plan

Step 1: What is your school system's plan for implementing key activities (pre-identified) within this strategy?

Step 2: What other priorities, related to this strategy, does your school system have?

Funding
needs for
the plan

Step 3a: Consider the workforce and personnel necessary to implement your school system's plan for this strategy.

Step 3b: Consider the activities and resources that may be necessary to implement your school system's plan for this strategy.

Objectives

Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to...

- explain the Special Education planning process for the 2018-2019 school year.
- **use the strategy-based planning template for Special Education programs.**
- explain how the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application reflects the strategy-based planning template.
- understand the Department's plan for providing additional support to school systems.

Practice Using the Strategy-Based Planning Template

Strategy 1: Identify disabilities early and accurately.

Key Actions:

1. Use strategic Child Find activities to coordinate the identification of non-identified students and the transition of students from IDEA Part-C to IDEA Part-B.
2. Systematically evaluate students suspected of having disabilities.
3. Communicate with families and collaborate with partners regarding referral, screening, and evaluation information.

Practice Using the Strategy-Based Planning Template

With the members of your school system, practice completing the planning template for Strategy 1: Early and Accurate Identification.

Protocol:

- (5 minutes) Step 1: Describe how your school system implements these key activities.
- (5 minutes) Step 2: Describe other priorities your school system has related to providing high quality instruction.
- (5 minutes) Step 3a and Step 3b: Consider funding needs (workforce and activities/resources) for implementing this plan.

Your interactive handout includes a thought-catcher that you can use as you complete this exercise.

Reflect on Using the Strategy-Based Planning Template

Independently complete the thought catcher in your interactive handout.

With a partner, discuss the following questions:

- What information will be helpful for you to use when completing this template?
- What additional personnel will you want to involve when you're completing the template?

Objectives

Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to...

- explain the Special Education planning process for the 2018-2019 school year.
- use the strategy-based planning template for Special Education programs.
- **explain how the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application reflects the strategy-based planning template.**
- understand the Department's plan for providing additional support to school systems during this transition.

Continuum of Support: Implementing the Strategies



Guidance on Strategies and Key Actions: In Fall 2017, the Department released [Strategies for Success: A Guidebook for Supporting Students with Disabilities](#). The purpose of this guidebook is to provide principals and school system leaders with resources to create strong support plans.

Strategy—Based Planning Template: Designed to support school systems in developing plans for addressing each of the strategies and associated key actions.

IDEA Application: Restructured to reflect the strategy-based planning template and to support school systems in directing funds to support their Special Education plans.

Excess Cost and the IDEA Consolidated Application

IDEA funds are intended to support the excess costs of providing Special Education services to students with disabilities. Because of this, while the IDEA application will reflect the four strategies, a completed application will not capture the school system's full Special Education plan.

This means that the IDEA application will reflect only a portion of the funds school systems are using to support their Special Education plans and that not everything from a school system's completed planning template will be pulled into the IDEA application.

In addition to IDEA, other funding sources (including MFP and local dollars) are also used to support a full Special Education plan.

Goals of the IDEA Consolidated Application

We believe the IDEA Consolidated Application should be a tool that

- reflects the strategy-based planning template school systems follow when planning their Special Education programs.
- is structured around proven strategies that improve outcomes for students with disabilities and supports school systems in directing funds toward the activities that matter most for students with disabilities and their needs.

Aligning to the Goals

Key Shift #1: The four strategies will be the primary organizing principle for budgeting funds (to support excess cost) in the IDEA Consolidated Application.

Aligning to the Goals

Key Shift #1: The four strategies will be the primary organizing principle for budgeting funds (to support excess cost) in the IDEA Consolidated Application.

Key Shift #2: School systems will budget their 611 and 619 allocations across the four strategies (as well as Program Administration and Support, CEIS, and Non-Public Share).

Objectives

Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to...

- explain the Special Education planning process for the 2018-2019 school year.
- use the strategy-based planning template for Special Education programs.
- explain how the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application reflects the strategy-based planning template.
- **understand the Department's plan for providing additional support to school systems.**

Additional Support

Weekly Support Calls

Strategy 1: Identify disabilities early and accurately	April 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pupil appraisal and evaluation personnel● Early childhood leaders
Strategy 2: Provide high-quality instruction to ensure the achievement of ambitious IEP goals	April 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Curriculum and Instruction leaders
Strategy 3: Strengthen instruction with specialized supports and related services	April 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Evaluation personnel● Related service provider leaders
Strategy 4: Coordinate effective transition planning and implementation	April 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Transition coordinators● School counselor, if appropriate
Program Administration and Support	May 2	
The CEIS Page	May 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Early intervention coordinator● Pupil appraisal and evaluation personnel

Special Education leaders and Federal Programs/IDEA Grants Managers should plan to attend all calls.