Reminders

- Please mute your computer/phone
- Type questions in the chat box
- We are recording

LEA/SOP Directors' Call

OSES

4-1-2020

Agenda

- Updates
- Accessibility
- Teleservices
- Documentation
- Evaluation/Reevaluation
- Contracts
- Good News

Updates

- Reminders – no SC READY, SCPASS, EOC, 4K, or alternate assessment
- Graduating Seniors Guidance
  - Complete Summary of Performance
- Mandatory retention (3rd grade) - based on performance on the ELA portion of SC READY, which is suspended for the current school year. Retention at third grade, as well as any other grade, should not be based on any one assessment, but a collection of data points that may include formative assessments, teacher-made assessments, quarter grades earned, and prior parent notification and input.

Resource Page

- Check frequently - https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/special-education-services/information-about-covid-19-coronavirus/
- Resources
  - Parents/Students
  - Faculty/Staff
  - Teachers
  - FAQ Responses organized into categories

Considerations for Accessibility and FAPE

- Toni Curry, Daryl Mellard, Kathryn Kennedy, Kelsey Ortiz, & Mary Rice from U of Kansas

  https://zoom.us/rec/play/7JMqcLusqDk3Hd3BsQSDUPIrW9S4e_2sgCUe-voJmkjmASYAZgKnMOdGYuv2o7ItYjBjWB0kkU4rNG2a?continueMode=true

Resources on Telehealth and Telepractice

- Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA)
  https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus.asp

Speech-Language Services

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA): Telepractice

The South Carolina Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology endorses guidelines developed by ASHA.

The Board does not believe it is unprofessional conduct for a licensee to utilize telepractice so long as the initial evaluation is conducted in person and the licensee has determined during the initial evaluation that subsequent treatment is appropriate for telepractice.

Occupational Therapy

- American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA): Telehealth Resources

SC has no statute or regulations specific to OT and telehealth.

The South Carolina Occupational Therapy Board does support continued service provision through any method of practice, including telepractice, within the scope of practice and that complies with the applicable standard of care. The Board continues to study telepractice and will discuss the issue at future meetings.

- https://llr.sc.gov/ot/pdfforms/COVID19%20OT%20Board%20Announcement%20Final.pdf

Physical Therapy

- American Physical Therapy Association (APTA): Telehealth

The SC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners issued a Public Health State of Emergency Order on 3/13/2020

The Board concludes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of South Carolina to allow physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to provide physical therapy services via telehealth for the duration of this Order

FormStack Survey: Instruction

- Are you providing access to gen ed instruction?
- Are you providing specially designed instruction?
- How are you documenting the provision?
- Are you providing related services?
- Which related services?
- How are you documenting?
- How are you documenting parent contacts?

Measuring Progress toward Annual Goals

- How are you measuring progress toward annual goals?
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Math
  - Social-emotional
  - Transition
- What resources/tools have you found helpful?

Survey

- https://scoses.formstack.com/forms/sped_directors_additional_information
- Due 4/8/2020
- Will be used to look at where technical assistance is needed during this time

Documentation of services during pandemic

- Service provision/delivery method is different and so will require flexibility; compelled by circumstances
- Service provision will require collaboration with parents
- Ensure students' needs met to maximum extent practical
- Not an IEP team decision to change placement
- Create contingency learning plans
- Clear communication of plan after consultation with parents

What to include

- Actions proposed
  - How will access be provided to the emergency learning plan opportunities provided to all students?
  - How has consultation with parent taken place?
  - How will progress toward annual goals be measured during this time?
  - What, if any, temporary adjustments will need to be made during this time?
- Why is this action taking place
  - Describe the current emergency procedures
  - Describe how the district is providing learning opportunities to all students
- Other options considered for implementing services during closure period and rejected with reasons
  - What other reasonable and practical options for implementing the IEP were considered and rejected and why
- Information used as basis for action
  - Current health and safety requirements
  - Current IEP, progress data, grades, standards
  - District's emergency learning plan
  - Parent input

Evaluations/Reevaluations/IEP meetings

Eligibility determinations (initial and reevaluation) can only be made if all information requested during the evaluation/reevaluation planning meeting has been gathered/completed.

Contracts

- Consider alternative means to have contract employees fulfill contracts
  - Interpreter consulting with special education teacher on access issues
  - Paraeducators participating in virtual professional development activities
    - https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources/high-leverage-practices/
- Consider need for access
- Be aware of terms of contract
- Although can't pay out a contract if no services are being provided, be flexible in looking at how services could be delivered and what services are needed during this time

Joint Letter to OSERS/OSEP from NASDSE/CASE

Proposed

- Timeline flexibility
  - 60-day initial and reeval triennials
  - Annual IEP reviews
  - Complaint timelines
  - Part C to B transition timelines
- Procedural flexibility
  - Documentation of FAPE under each district's unique circumstances
    - All IEPs written before school closures maintained
    - Any changes documented through "distance/continual learning plan"
    - No IEP amendments during this time
  - Data collection and corrective action
    - State and LEA focus on providing services rather than on corrective actions and paperwork

Joint Letter, continued

- Fiscal Management flexibility
  - Local MOE waived for 2019-20
  - Proportionate share for PPPSC for rest of year
  - CCEIS set-aside

Proposed

- Check the FAQ response link frequently - https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/special-education-services/information-about-covid-19-coronavirus/frequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19-closures/
  - Will be updated at least weekly, typically on Fridays
- Continue to submit questions through link - https://scoses.formstack.com/forms/closures_question_and_answer