TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons  
State Agency IDEA, Part B Project Directors

FROM: Peggy McDonald, Director  
Office of Special Education Programs

SUBJECT: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - Part B (IDEA-B)  
SFY 2015 Entitlement Allocations and Electronic Application Information

The IDEA-B state fiscal year (SFY) 2015 Allocations are now posted on the Department’s website at [http://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/fund/](http://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/fund/). The Basic and Preschool Allocations are distributed on a formula basis to school districts, charter schools and state agencies. A detailed description of the individual allocation formulas may be found on the Allocation Pages of the online grant application. Eligible agencies should use these amounts to plan for the use of the funds.

The federal government rescinded the anticipated sequestration for SFY 2015 and restored New Jersey’s Basic funding to an amount approximating the 2012-2013 level. The Preschool Allocations remain relatively flat.

Each year, the Department has been able to supplement the entitlement Allocations with unexpended prior-year funding. This supplement, plus the return to the 2012-2013 level, is why LEAs may notice an increase in their Basic Allocation and level, or near level funding, in their Preschool Allocation. Changes are different for each district and are dependent not only on the overall amount of funds available, but also on the district’s census and poverty factors. For SFY 2015, the amounts available are being distributed across an increased number of children. As a result, there are differences in the individual Allocations compared to SFY 2013.

**SFY 2015 IDEA-B Electronic Grant Submission**

The SFY 2015 IDEA grants will continue to be completed in the System for Administering Grants Electronically (SAGE), a statewide application designed to provide coordination between all departments and agencies within the state related to grant applications. At this time, it is anticipated that the SFY 2015 IDEA Application will be available on the SAGE system on or about May 23, 2014. Please be advised that the SFY 2015 IDEA Application submission date is scheduled tentatively for **Monday, June 30, 2014**. LEAs/Agencies that submit their respective applications in substantially approvable form through the SAGE system by the due date may begin to allocate the funds as of July 1, 2014. As there are no significant changes to the process, the manuals, training documents and archived webinar, located on the Department’s website at [http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/fund/](http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/fund/), may be utilized for technical assistance.
Grant Project Period Timelines/ Obligation of Funds

The project period for the federal grants is now July 1 through June 30 of each fiscal year, starting with the SFY 2014 applications.

Since the NJDOE receives the IDEA Basic award from the United States Department of Education in separate awards (July 1, 2014 and October 1, 2014), the full Allocations for these programs will not be available until October 1, 2014. Therefore, districts should anticipate spending no more than 18.3 percent of their SFY 2015 IDEA Basic allocation for activities planned for July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please direct inquiries to your county supervisor of child study, or contact Ms. Patricia Holcomb-Gray in the Office of Special Education Programs, at 609-984-4953

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

PM/JW/PHG

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