



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Special Education Monitoring Alert

February 2012



Alert to Special Education Directors: Increased Monitoring Collaboration with Early Childhood

The Arizona Department of Education/Early Childhood Special Education (ADE/ECSE) Unit works closely with and assists the Exceptional Student Services (ESS) program specialists in monitoring early childhood special education as part of the ADE/ESS comprehensive monitoring process. The ESS monitoring system is designed to ensure compliance with State and Federal requirements for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 and the Arizona Revised Statutes. Special education monitoring activities are conducted on a six-year cycle and the PEA monitoring type is determined based on a yearly review of PEA data. Compliance and results indicator data from the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR), dispute resolution findings, policies and procedures, and annual site visit data are all reviewed annually by ESS program specialists in collaboration with PEA special education directors.

NEW THIS YEAR: the data reviewed for unified and elementary school districts will now also include Early Childhood Outcomes/GOLD information (SPP/APR Indicator 7). The data review influences the PEA monitoring type that will occur in Year 4 of the monitoring cycle. This first year's criteria will be based on whether or not a district is meeting the required checkpoint deadlines for early childhood data submission.

If you need assistance with the implementation of GOLD, please contact Holly Ford at (602) 542-2790 or holly.ford@azed.gov.

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