



A New Regional Resource Center Program (RRCP)

So What's New?

For more than three decades, OSEP has funded the Regional Resource Centers (RRCs) to provide technical assistance and dissemination support to States in meeting the federal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). While RRCs have undergone changes over the years, the most significant change occurred with the establishment of a newly formed Regional Resource Center Program (RRCP). The RRCP represents the culmination of a two-year redesign process which has transformed six relatively autonomous regional entities into one national program with a new scope and mission.

Why Have RRCs Changed?

As a result of new accountability requirements under IDEA, OSEP recognized the need for RRCs to work more collaboratively, as a national program with a common mission to support States. By working together as a national program, the RRCP represents a more consistent and focused approach to the delivery of technical assistance services. Also, as a more cohesive national program, the RRCP serves as a catalyst in the creation of wider partnerships with other technical assistance centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education. By working as a single entity rather than as individual centers, the RRCP will be able to maximize collective resources in the planning and implementation of technical assistance to States.

What Will the Program Structure Look Like?

Oversight for the RRCP is provided by the Governance Board, consisting of the Director of each regional center and the OSEP Project Officer. The Governance Board is responsible for setting policy and direction and ensuring the implementation of the strategic plan. Day to day management is led by two Co- Coordinators who share responsibility for overseeing Priority Teams and Cadres, reporting to the Governance Team and Project Officer, and maintaining communications with other technical assistance centers. Strategic direction will also be sought by the formation of an RRCP Advisory Board.

Members of the RRCP

- Northeast Regional Resource Center (NERRC)
- Midsouth Regional Resource Center (MSRRC)
- North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC)
- Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC)
- Western Regional Resource Center (WRRC)

(Note: The center to host Region 3 will be announced in early 2010)

The RRCP will operate within three organizing activities: Knowledge Development Activities, Technical Assistance and Dissemination Activities, and Leadership and Coordination Activities. Driven by a long-range strategic plan, the RRCP will provide coordinated, research-based technical assistance to States to: (1) meet federal accountability requirements under IDEA, (2) implement effective systems of general supervision, (3) develop, identify, and implement evidenced-based tools and practices to assist States in meeting State Performance Plan (SPP) targets, and (4) develop and implement strategies that address the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) goals aligned with compliance and results indicators established under IDEA. A commitment to coordination with other partners within the federal technical assistance network will further strengthen the services available to States. Much of the work of the RRCP will be accomplished by Priority Teams. These teams, in collaboration with States and other federally funded technical assistance partners, will be charged with the development of evidenced-based tools, products and services to assist States in meeting the accountability requirements of IDEA. In addition to the Priority Teams, the RRCP will include a number of "Cadres" created to provide web/technology assistance and information research support to the RRCP. State Technical Assistance Specialists within each regional center will then bridge the work of the Priority Teams and Cadres with the needs of the States through direct and indirect technical assistance services.

If you have any questions, please contact the RRCP Co- Coordinators

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Dissemination: 11.15.09