

Overview of the State Personnel Development Grant and the New Competition

Introduction and Purpose of State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)

- The purpose of this federal OSEP program, authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), is to assist State educational agencies (SEAs) in reforming and **improving their systems for personnel preparation and professional development** in early intervention, educational, and transition services in order to improve results for children with disabilities.
- The current SPDG was funded in 2007 and ends this year. The California Department of Education intends to request a 1-year no-cost time extension.
- SPDG activity descriptions are located at:
http://www.calstat.org/pdf/SPDG_Overview.pdf
- More information on the Project can be found on the CalSTAT website:
<http://www.calstat.org/sig.html>

Basic Expectations of the 2012 California SPDG Proposal:

We expect the federal Request for Application (RFA) to be released in May and the proposal to be due six weeks later.

All activities in the California SPDG proposal must:

- Meet the funding requirements of the RFA (Max. Amt.=\$1,750,000/yr instead of our CA 2.2 million/yr; **Note:** This is \$450K less/year than CA currently has now.)
- Increase probability of positive ratings by the neutral third-party reader panel (Quality of activities proposed)
- Obtain the competitive priority (3 points) by addressing the common core content standards in at least one of our SPDG proposed activities
- Align to the SPP and ESEA Plan for the State
- Align to IDEA 612(a)(14)
...all personnel necessary to carry out this part are appropriately and adequately prepared, subject to the requirements of section 612(a)(14) [Personnel Qualifications]
- Coordinate with Part C activities

New OSEP SPDG Objectives (from the May 2010 RFA)

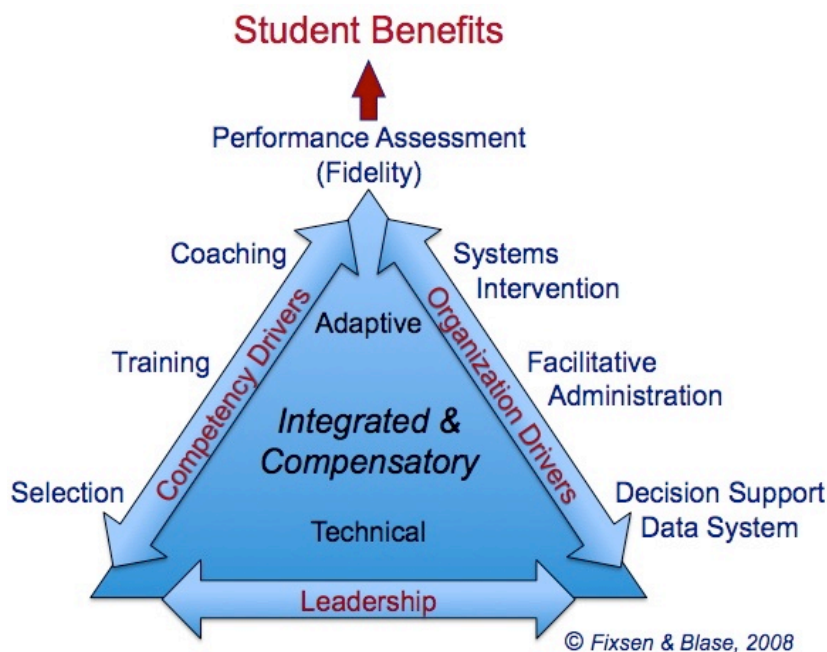
The revised measures will assess the extent to which:

- Projects use **evidence-based professional development practices to support the attainment of identified competencies**.
- Participants in SPDG professional development demonstrate **improvement in implementation** of SPDG-supported practices over time.
- Projects use SPDG professional development **funds** to provide activities designed to **sustain the use of SPDG supported practices**.
- Highly qualified special education teachers that have participated in SPDG supported special education teacher retention activities **remain as special education teachers** two years after their initial participation in these activities

SPDG Operating Principles:

In this round of the SPDG grants, OSEP is looking for **focused work toward the measurable implementation of evidence-based intervention practices, with fidelity. There's a heavy emphasis on coaching supports at local, regional, and statewide levels, and using adult learning principles to drive implementation.**

The goal is to increase student benefits and outcomes. Data-driven decision-making; involving stakeholders in the process; and, leveraging existing resources, are key principles utilized in previous California SPDG work.



Follow this link to access the powerpoint slides and audio for OSEP's Revised SPDG Program Measures: An Overview, which incorporates the diagram above. You can also access OSEP's draft evaluator's rubric for professional development here.

<http://signetwork.org/events/252>