

LEA _____
County _____

New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)
Office of Special Education (OSE)
IDEA Program Monitoring Risk Assessment

Monitoring Cycle- all districts will participate in a 6-year cycle of monitoring beginning January 2024.

Onsite monitoring is risk based and data informed. Results of self-assessment, along with risk factors, determine if an onsite visit occurs.

Risk Assessment

WHY? The purpose of the risk assessment process is to tailor program monitoring activities based on districts’ assessed level of need. Program monitoring is focused on improving education results and functional outcomes for children with disabilities; therefore, districts reporting poorer student outcome and compliance data may need more guidance and support compared to higher performing districts.

WHAT? The risk assessment process is designed to be a universal process for all districts prior to assigning a district to a tier based on the risk assessment score. Specific outcome and compliance data, referred to as risk factors, are used to determine a district’s level of need within a given cohort and subsequent monitoring needs. Risk factors are assigned point values, in consideration of the factor’s impact on educational outcomes for students with disabilities. Additional risk factors may be added or deleted as the process evolves and new data becomes available.

HOW? Data sources for risk factors include district-reported information compiled by NJSMART, EdFacts, SSDS and/or data collected by Office of Special Education Staff. The risk assessment results produce a numerical risk score that separates districts into two tiers, tier one receives a desk audit and tier two districts receive a full onsite monitoring. Please note a district's overall risk level assignment may be adjusted; however, changes are made on a case-by-case basis and are dependent on unique circumstances. A description of the current special education program monitoring risk factors are noted on the following page.

The NJDOE, OSE reserves the right to implement monitoring activities on or off-site based on a variety of risk factors that may not be included on the checklist at any time regardless of the cycle.

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Risk Assessment & Tier Assignments

Risk Assessment Tool

RISK FACTORS	YES	NO	Value	Points Assigned
Does the desk audit process by the OSE indicate noncompliance where compliance by the LEA was noted when they conducted their record review? <i>Data Source: NJDOE Records</i>			10	
Does a review of current data indicate the LEA's participation rate in DLM exceeds the 1.0 percent cap? <i>Data Source: EdFacts</i>			7	
Does the district have an open finding of noncompliance for indicator 4b? The district has policies, procedures and practices that contribute to a significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions greater than 10 days by race/ethnicity for students with disabilities. <i>Data Source: SSDS, NJSMART</i>			7	
Is the district below the SPP target for Indicator 5a, LRE Placement, for two or more years? <i>Data Source: NJSMART</i>			9	
Does the district have an open finding of noncompliance for either indicator 9 or 10? (Disproportionate Representation in Special Education and Disproportionate Representation in Specific Disability Categories) The district has policies, procedures and practices that contribute to a disproportionate representation due to inappropriate identification in any racial/ethnic group receiving special education or related services, or in any racial/ethnic group in a specific disability category. <i>Data Source: NJSMART</i>			7	
Is the LEA's current graduation rate more than 3% below the state average graduation rate? <i>Data Source: NJSMART</i>			5	
Are the current classification rates for the LEA at least 3% or higher above the state average? <i>Data Source: NJSMART</i>			5	
Does a review of restraint and seclusion data, along with procedures submitted with the self-assessment, indicate a further review is warranted?			5	
Did the district fail to meet Maintenance of Effort compliance? <i>Data Source: EWEG</i>			3	
Did the district fail to meet Excess Cost compliance? <i>Data Source: EWEG</i>			3	
Has the LEA had a change in special education leadership in the last two years?			3	
Has the LEA had a complaint investigation finding noncompliance?			7	
Is there other qualitative or anecdotal information, not previously specified, that supports a need for further review? (e.g., phone calls, ombudsperson input, family support specialist input, county supervisor input)			4	

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Does the desk audit process by the OSE indicate noncompliance in any priority area? <i>Data Source: NJDOE Records</i>			10	
Total number:			85	

Directions:
Points are assigned for each factor. The sum for each LEA is totaled and a monitoring tier is assigned.
LEAs selected for onsite monitoring identifies the top-scoring 20% of LEAs in the cohort. Please note, the OSE reserves the right to implement monitoring activities on-site based on a variety of risk factors that may not be included on this risk assessment.

☐ **Desk Monitoring**

☐ **Onsite Monitoring**