Bureau of Special Education FY’17 Memo #7

Date: September 23, 2016

To: Superintendents of Schools
   Special Education Directors

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education
       Division of Educational Improvement
       Bureau of Special Education

Re: SPP/APR Timeliness of Early Transitions 2015-2016

Indicator 12: Percent of children referred by Part C (FCESS) prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B (preschool special education), and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday.

The New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, is developing the FFY 2015 State Performance Plan (SPP) for Indicator 12: Early Transitions from Part C Family-Centered Early Supports & Services (FCESS) to Part B Special Education. The NHDOE is generating a report from NHSEIS based on the children whose data transferred from NH Leads to NHSEIS. To be proactive, districts should go into NHSEIS and review all transitions to ensure data are complete and accurate. For any children that have valid parent delays, begin to prepare your evidence to provide to the NHDOE.

In the fall of 2016, the NHDOE will review the NHSEIS report to determine any potential noncompliance. Districts that are flagged with potential noncompliance will be notified by the NH Department of Education and offered an opportunity to provide information regarding valid parent delays or to provide additional explanations regarding the data. Districts that are determined to be in compliance will not need to take any action.

For purposes of this desk audit, the State will be reviewing data on children who were referred from FCESS to your district with a date-of-birth from July 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012, inclusive. This data will be used to generate State and district compliance with Indicator 12. The data will be used in the calculation for District Data Profiles and will be used as a factor in the determination of a district’s implementation of IDEA.

For more information on Indicator 12, please refer to the FFY14 State Performance Plan on the NH Department of Education website at http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/spp.htm. If you would like further clarification and/or have questions, please contact Ruth Littlefield at 271-2178 or ruth.littlefield@doe.nh.gov.