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Bureau of Special Education Support FY'22 Memo #27

Date: March 17, 2022

To: Superintendents of Schools
Administrators of Special Education

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education

Division of Learner Support
Bureau of Special Education Support

RE: IDEA Part B Indicators 9 & 10 Calculation Method

The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE), Bureau of Special Education Support (Bureau) is writing with information for districts relative to the Bureau's annual calculation of the IDEA Part B Indicator 9, Disproportionate Representation, and Indicator 10, Disproportionate Representation in Specific Disability Categories.

IDEA Part B Indicators 9 & 10 calculations identify the risk of over-identification of students with disabilities within a district's enrollment population by racial/ethnic groups overall and by specific disability categories. Once the calculations are complete, districts over the state-identified risk threshold are reviewed to determine if the disproportionate representation is the result of inappropriate identification. Only in the case that the disproportionate representation is determined to be the result of inappropriate identification will a finding of noncompliance be issued.

Previously the Indicators 9 & 10 calculations only looked at districts for review where at least two separate racial/ethnic groups met the minimum cell and N size and where any of those groups had a weighted risk ratio over 3.00 (See *attached PowerPoint for examples*) This calculation method only allowed for the review of less than 20% of New Hampshire districts.

Pursuant to federal guidance and stakeholder input the Bureau will be changing New Hampshire's calculation method for Indicators 9 & 10 to allow for the review of all districts with statistically significant enrollment populations of non-white students for the risk of disproportionate representation.

Beginning with data collected for the 2021-2022 school year (October 1, 2021 Child Count & Enrollment) NH's Indicators 9 & 10 calculations will look at districts for review where at least one racial/ethnic group in the district meets the minimum cell size, where all other racial/ethnic groups combined also meet the minimum cell size, and where that group has a risk ratio over 3.00. (See *attached PowerPoint for examples*)

The only change to the Indicators 9 & 10 process will be the change in calculation method. For those districts over the new 3.00 risk ratio threshold, a review will still be undertaken to determine if the disproportionate representation is the result of inappropriate identification. Only in the case that the disproportionate representation is determined to be the result of inappropriate identification will a finding of noncompliance be issued.

Districts over the 3.00 risk ratio threshold will be notified in April.

Should you have questions, or need further clarification, please contact Hannah Krajcik at Hannah.m.Krajcik@doe.nh.gov or (603) 271-3742.

Attachment:
Indicator 9 & 10 Calculation Method Change PowerPoint