



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 15, 2020

**TO:** *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Coordinators, Directors of Special Education, and Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council Members

**FROM:** Noel Kelty, Director *NK*  
Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education

**SUBJECT:** Michigan Part C Determination

Michigan Part C has received the 2020 Determination from the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). Our determination this year is Needs Assistance.

The following data points were used in the calculation of the determination:

- Compliance indicator performance data
- Timely correction of identified noncompliance
- Timely and accurate state-reported data
- Publicly available information, such as Special Conditions on the State's grant award under Part C
- Any other issues related to State compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Data Completeness (the percentage of exiting children with child outcome entry and exit data reported)
- Data Anomalies (statistically significant anomalies in child outcome data)
- Comparison of Michigan's Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018 child outcome data to FFY 2018 child outcome data of other states
- Comparison of Michigan's FFY 2018 child outcome data to Michigan's FFY 2017 child outcome data

Michigan scored perfectly on the data points related to compliance indicator performance data, timely and accurate state-reported data, publicly available information, and other related State compliance with IDEA. We had no data anomalies, so also scored perfectly on that data point.

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One instance of noncompliance identified during FFY 2016 remained uncorrected at the time the FFY 2018 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) was submitted, resulting in a loss of one point for longstanding noncompliance. The loss of this point had the impact of reducing the overall determination score to the level of Needs Assistance. Verification and closeout of this noncompliance finding, which is anticipated to be completed this year, will return this data point to a perfect score.

Our child outcomes data completeness rate (56.55 percent) again increased slightly this year compared to last year, bringing us closer to the expected threshold of 65 percent and above. The impact on our determination remained the same as last year. We have room for continued improvement in this area.

The comparison of Michigan's child outcomes data to the data of other states fell below the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile and above the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile on each of the six child outcomes data points, having some negative impact on the scoring for our determination. Our data would need to fall at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile on at least three of the six child outcome data points to score perfectly on this comparison.

Comparison of our child outcomes data year-to-year improved over last year, resulting in a higher score in this area. Our data reflected a statistically significant increase on one of the six child outcome data points. The five remaining child outcome data points also reflected slight increases; however, none of these were statistically significant. For a perfect score and to make the most positive impact on our determination, we need at least two child outcome data points to show statistically significant increases from one year to the next. If any of the child outcomes data points reflect statistically significant decreases, we would need more than two to show statistically significant increases.

The determination of Needs Assistance comes with available national technical assistance. It also helps us focus efforts and resources on some areas for improvement.

Due to Michigan Part C receiving the determination of Needs Assistance for two consecutive years, OSEP has advised us of available sources of technical assistance that may help to address the areas in which we need assistance. In our FFY 2019 SPP/APR, to be submitted February 1, 2021, we must report on the technical assistance sources from which we have received assistance and the actions taken as a result of that technical assistance. The actions we take will involve work with local service areas on improvement activities.

Thank you for your partnership and efforts with Michigan children and their families.