

**Action  
Required**

December 14, 2001

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Reporting 2000-2001 Accountability Results for Certain Special Education Participants (Texas Education Agency Data Collection Form SPE-112)

Changes to federal regulations require the states to collect and report on the participation and results in accountability assessment for all students with disabilities, starting with the 2000-2001 school year. Monitoring the performance results of all students is a major U.S. Department of Education compliance requirement to promote accountability and improvement in public law 105-17, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and in Title 1 of the Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) already has this information for more than 90% of students with disabilities who participated in the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) or the State-Developed Alternative Assessment (SDAA). Your assistance is needed in reporting results for students, exempt from the state tests, who were assigned a locally selected alternate accountability assessment procedure by the admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee in the 2000-2001 school year.

Since this is the first time school districts are required to submit data on the results of students who participated in locally assigned alternate accountability assessment procedures, a paper-based reporting system will be used to collect the data the Agency needs for compliance with federal reporting requirements this year. Districts will use the enclosed form to report results. An electronic Microsoft Excel version of this data collection form is available from the TEA Division of Special Education's Web page at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed/> for your use (see "LDAA Reporting" Link). Due to the amount of confidential information on the completed forms, the Agency cannot accept submissions via e-mail. Large school districts are requested to submit information from campuses at one time.

The following data elements are reported for each student on the form: 9-digit PEIMS ID number, last and first name as reported in PEIMS, date of birth, enrolled grade, area(s) of exemption, area(s) assessed with a locally assigned accountability procedure, and results. Texas schools must keep locally selected alternate accountability assessments results in the student's eligibility folder, so the data for completing this report should be readily available. The completed paper report or diskette must be submitted to the attention of Gene Lenz, Senior Director, Texas Education Agency, Division of Special Education, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701-1494, by the deadline of February 1, 2002. If you have no students to report, complete the top portion of the form requesting district/campus information and enter "None" in the first field "9-digit PEIMS ID Number." Two samples of completed forms are provided for your information.

Working in partnership with the districts in succeeding years, the Agency will evaluate and improve the efficiency for collecting this data, since results for locally assigned accountability procedures must now be included in the State's annual reports of student performance for all students. Your support, participation, and timely response to this data request are appreciated. Questions regarding Data Collection Form SPE-112 should be directed to the Division of Special Education at (512) 463-9414. If additional resources are needed to collect this data, please contact your education service center for technical assistance.

Sincerely,

Jim Nelson  
Commissioner of Education

JN:MC:drc

Enclosure