

OSEP MONTHLY DMS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALL

DMS UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCTOBER 2022

MSIP Division Director



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MSIP Director

Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)

Agenda

- ▶ DMS Overview: Understanding DMS
- ▶ DMS Evaluation
- ▶ DMS 2.0 Timelines
- ▶ Document Requests
- ▶ Engagement On-site/Virtual Visit
- ▶ Questions and Next Steps

Understanding DMS

- ▶ The goal of DMS 2.0 is to improve outcomes and results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities and their families and ensure compliance.
- ▶ Our monitoring focuses on States' systems of general supervision integrating both results and compliance
- ▶ DMS 2.0 will look at all of these through the lens of improved results and compliance.

DMS 2.0 Protocols and Resources

- ▶ DMS Protocols and Resources, including the monitoring schedule can be found on the [IDEA website](#), under Resources for Grantees, DMS, DMS 2.0.

The screenshot shows the IDEA website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Law and Policy, Reports, Grants and Funding, Resources, and News and Media. The 'Resources' link is circled in yellow. A dropdown menu is open under 'Resources', with 'Resources for Grantees' also circled in yellow. The main content area is titled 'Resources for Grantees' and includes a breadcrumb trail 'Home » Resources for Grantees'. Below this, there is a paragraph about the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) leadership and financial support. A second paragraph mentions the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) authorizes formula grants. Under the heading 'State Formula Grants', there are tabs for Overview, SPP/APR, Grants, DMS, and Fiscal, with 'DMS' circled in yellow. Below this, the 'Differentiated Monitoring and Support' section is visible, followed by a 'DMS Reports' section where 'DMS 2.0' is circled in yellow. At the bottom, there is a 'General Resources' section with two links: 'DMS 2.0 Framework with Evidence and Intended Outcomes (PDF)' and 'Overview of the Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) System (PDF)'. On the right side, there is a 'Connect with us' section with social media icons and a list of links including U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Contacts, IDEA State Contacts, and Building the Legacy: IDEA 2004.



DMS Cohorts 1-3: Monitoring Schedule

Monitoring Schedule

Phase 2 engagement month/year identified for each Cohort in the table below.

	TEAM A		TEAM B		TEAM C		TEAM D	
Cohort 1 2022-2023	KY-B	KY-C	SC-B	MI-C	AK-B	NY-C	CO-B	CO-C
	11/2023	05/2023	11/2022	05/2022	06/2022	12/2022	12/2023	12/2023
Cohort 2 2024-2025	AR-B	AR-C	NV-B	NV-C	ID-B	ID-C	MT-B	MT-C
	11/2022	05/2022	11/2023	05/2023	06/2023	12/2023	06/2023	06/2022
Cohort 3 2025-2026	ND-B	ND-C	ME-B	ME-C	KS-B	KS-C	IN-B	IN-C
	OR-B	OR-C	AS-B	AS-C	NE-B	NE-C	MS-B	MS-C
	IA-B	IA-C	TN-B	TN-C	UT-B	UT-C	LA-B	LA-C
Cohort 3 2025-2026	RI-B	RI-C	FSM		NH-B	NH-C	GA-B	GA-C
	MO-B	MO-C	MH		DE-B	DE-C	PR-B	PR-C
	PA-B	PA-C	PW		MA-B	MA-C	CA-B	CA-C
			WA-B	WA-C				



Monitoring Support Team Members

Team A

Fiscal

Jennifer Finch

MON | IMP | Data
Kimberly Mitchell

DR

Marjorie Thompson

Team A
State Lead

Team B

Fiscal

Alecia Walters

MON | IMP | Data
Brenda Wilkins

DR

Ronda Sortino

Team B
State Lead

Team C

Fiscal

Laura Duos

MON | IMP | Data
Dwight Thomas

DR

Justin Arner

Team C
State Lead

Team D

Fiscal

Danny Rice

MON | IMP | Data
Koko Austin

DR

Genee Norbert

Team D
State Lead



DMS 2.0 Evaluation

- ▶ Review of DMS 2.0 Activities to date
- ▶ Identified 3 challenges around 3 areas
 - Monitoring Cycle and Activities
 - Monitoring Phases
 - Phase 1 | Discovery | Pre-site work
- ▶ Discussed issues and developed solutions

Evaluation: Monitoring Cycle and Activities

- ▶ Issue: Because of the competing priorities around the SPP/APRs and Grants, scheduling visits from February-June is problematic. Summer is also difficult, due to vacation schedules and since schools are closed, there is limited availability of local staff.

Solution: Monitoring Cycle and Activities

- ▶ DMS Monitoring visits will be scheduled during August-January each year.
- ▶ With few exceptions Part C and Part B monitoring activities for a given State will occur during the same month.
- ▶ The monitoring activities will be a hybrid of on-site and virtual activities, to be determined by each homeroom team.

Evaluation: Monitoring Phases

- ▶ Issue: OSEP staff, States, and stakeholders have found the use of the numbered Cohorts and the numbered phases to be confusing.
- ▶ For example:
 - State X is in Cohort 1 in Phase 1
 - State X is in Cohort 2 in Phase 1

Solution: Monitoring Phases

To avoid confusion:

- ▶ Phase 1 will be renamed **Discovery**
- ▶ Phase 2 will be renamed **Engagement**
- ▶ Phase 3 will be renamed **Close-out**

DMS Phases

- ▶ DMS monitoring will occur in three (3) phases:
 - **Discovery** (5 months prior to engagement)
 - Document Request: State will upload documents to an external SharePoint
 - State Overview Call
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Local Component
 - **Engagement** (1 month (visit) through issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report)
 - Onsite and Virtual monitoring interview calls
 - Issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report
 - **Close-out** (up to one year after the issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report)
 - Review of evidence of correction
 - Technical Assistance

Evaluation: Discovery/Pre-site work

- ▶ As designed, Phase 1 (Discovery) included multiple interviews around each of the component protocols.
- ▶ With the additional number of States being monitored in future years, and the overlapping phases, this is not sustainable for OSEP
- ▶ These interviews were also a substantial time commitment for States
- ▶ In addition, the distinction between a “**review of policies and procedures**” during Phase 1, and the “**review of implementation**” during Phase 2 was hard to define and ensure consistency.

Solution: Discovery/Pre-site work

- ▶ Discovery (Phase 1) will be focused on a review of publicly available documentation and State submitted documentation requested by OSEP.
- ▶ 1-2 calls with the State for a basic introduction and explanation of the State's structure and systems.
- ▶ Stakeholder and local component activities (P&A, PTI/Parents/ SAP/SICC)

Document Review & Request

- ▶ A list of suggested documents can be found on the [DMS website](#) and in each of the protocols
- ▶ For Discovery
 - States will be sent a link to access an external SharePoint folder to upload evidence and documents
 - OSEP will limit the amount of PII required

Relevant Years for Document Requests

- ▶ Policies and procedures for relevant protocols in effect at time of request.
 - If State is in transition, work with your monitoring team on what you should provide
- ▶ Generally ,we will be asking for document samples supporting implementation of an area for three years, current year and two prior years
 - For example, we will be asking for documentation of the implementation of your monitoring procedures, including programs monitored, protocols used, monitoring findings and documentation of correction
 - Because we want to follow the process from identification to correction, we would want to see this across from the beginning of the monitoring through close-out

Scheduling of Engagement Phase

- ▶ All Engagement for Cohort 2 States will be conducted between **August 2024 and January 2025**
- ▶ In limited circumstances, may select a month outside of this time period
- ▶ All Cohort 2 visits must be conducted prior to August 2025

Engagement Monitoring Introduction

- ▶ Engagement may take place on-site, virtually or both, depending upon the needs of the State and health conditions.
- ▶ Engagement agenda will be customized to:
 - Discuss each of the protocols
 - Discuss any Stakeholder or local personnel input
 - Delve deep into additional areas determined on a State-by State basis such as Significant Disproportionality, Discipline, Child Find and Evaluation.

Engagement Interviews and Protocols

- ▶ Each of the monitoring protocols have a common structure and format.
- ▶ They are designed to help OSEP gather the information we need for monitoring.
- ▶ The protocols are intended as OSEP's monitoring tool.
- ▶ The protocols are a tool for State's to use to access their system and prepare for engagement with OSEP.
- ▶ <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/grantees/#DMS>

DMS 2.0 Timelines SAMPLE

▶ October 2023

- Establish actual on-site visit schedule for Cohort 2 States to ensure your staff is ready for the engagement month between August 2024 and January 2025.

▶ Timeline Example

- **On-site/Virtual Visit Month of August 2024**
- **October 2023 through the Engagement Month:** States should focus on gathering evidence and preparing documents for submission to OSEP, each State has will have access to an external SharePoint folder that they can upload documents to at any time beginning in October 2023.

DMS 2.0 Timelines SAMPLE Continued

▶ SAMPLE Onsite Visit Scheduled for **August 2024**

DISCOVERY

- **March 2024:** OSEP Document Request (5 months before visit)
- **March 2024:** OSEP will hold 1-2 calls with the State to review any overarching questions about the State structure and documents uploaded.
- **March-August 2024:** OSEP will be conducting calls with stakeholders and local personnel leading up to the Engagement month.

ENGAGEMENT

- **August 2024:** On-site/virtual visit
- **September 2024-December 2024:** Develop and Issue Monitoring Letter (generally 120 days after Engagement)

CLOSEOUT

- **December 2024-closeout:** Response to OSEP findings, TA and verification of correction



DMS 2.0 Timeline SAMPLE AUG Visit

December

- Issue Monitoring Report for August visit

October

- Cohort Announcements
- Engagement Month Announcements

Discovery: Pre-site Document Request and Review

Engagement: Visit On-site/Virtual State Engagement



5 Months Prior to Visit

Discovery

Engagement

Discovery will occur during the 5 months prior to the visit (MSIP staff review docs, 1-2 calls with States for overview)

Engagement will occur from the on-site/virtual visit through the issuance of the monitoring report (generally 120 days after visit)

Close-Out will occur up to one year after the issuance of the monitoring report.

Cohort 1: What happens now?

- ▶ The DMS IT Monitoring Teams will continue to carry out and manage the monitoring for all of the Cohort 1 States
- ▶ For the May/June 2023 and Nov/Dec 2023 visits, the teams will no longer have multiple interviews prior to engagement.
- ▶ Teams will use our **Discovery** process to review documents.
- ▶ Interviews will be conducted during the **Engagement** months.
- ▶ Currently, Monitoring Reports are being finalized for the first group of Cohort 1 States and programs.

Cohort 2: What happens now?

- ▶ Cohort 2 DMS Kick-off calls are currently being scheduled and held with States and Entities
- ▶ The DMS Kick-off call will notify the Cohort 2 States of their Engagement month between August 2024 and January 2025
 - Next October (2023), the DMS Monitoring Teams will be back in touch to discuss scheduling the actual dates of the Engagement monitoring activity.
- ▶ States are encouraged to:
 - Review the posted protocols and begin to gather evidence
 - Reach out to OSEP funded TA Centers to prepare for your monitoring activities

Cohort 3: What happens now?

- ▶ Notification emails have been sent to all States and Entities in Cohort 3
- ▶ Cohort 3 States and Entities will be notified next October 2023 of their Engagement month
- ▶ Cohort 3 visits would be during August 2025-January 2026

Cohorts 4 & Cohorts 5: What's next?

- ▶ Cohorts 4 & 5 have not been posted or announced.
- ▶ Cohort 4 notifications will be sent October 2023
 - Engagement months August 2026 through January 2027
- ▶ Cohort 5 notification will be sent October 2024
 - Engagement months August 2027 through January 2028



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