

# SPP Indicator 7: Early Childhood Outcomes Frequently Asked Questions

## General SPP 7 and Child Outcome Summary Form (COSF) Questions

1. **Once the progress data has been recorded on the COSF and the data has been entered into the online SPP 7 application, what is done with the paper version of the COSF?**

A copy of the COSF should be retained. It is recommended that a copy be placed in the child's special education eligibility folder. If the child moves into another district within the state, the IEP team may use the previous COSF as a source for additional information on the child.

2. **Do we have to use the paper form or can the data be entered directly into the online application?**

Yes, a paper copy of the COSF should be completed and retained.

3. **When the guidance states "...placed in the Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (PPCD)".....is that in reference to children placed in the classroom typically referred to as the "PPCD room" and are coded "44 or 45" OR any three-, four-, or five-year-old children with an individualized education program (IEP), regardless of placement and/or disability determination?**

Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) refers to the special education program for all three-, four- or five-year-old children with disabilities. The use of that term in this context does not refer to a particular room or code. Children with a disability coded 00 or speech only should have a COSF entry and exit if they meet the definition of each.

4. **Are districts allowed to collect data on a sample of children?**

No. Districts will submit data for all three-, four- or five-year-old children with disabilities who meet the criteria for Entry and Exit found on the TEA website at:

[http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum\\_and\\_Instructional\\_Programs/Special\\_Education/Data\\_and\\_Reports/General\\_Information\\_-\\_SPP\\_Indicator\\_7/](http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/Data_and_Reports/General_Information_-_SPP_Indicator_7/)

5. **What are the criteria for Entry and Exit for children age five who are in kindergarten?**

### Entry

If a five-year-old child is determined eligible to receive special education services, Entry is defined as the date the child begins receiving special education services as documented on the child's IEP.

### Exit

If a 5-year-old child turns six after September 1 of the current school year and the ARDC has determined the child will continue receiving special education services, then the assessment must be conducted and results recorded on the COSF not earlier than 30 school days (not calendar days) before the child exits the program. The ARDC may make the decision that the exit COSF should be completed at the end of the school year.

If a child turns six after the end of the school year, but before September 1 of the subsequent school year, then assessments are conducted and summarized, progress data on the three outcomes are recorded on the COSF and entered into the online application during the last 30 school days (not calendar days) of the regular school year. See Question 29 for ESY.

**6. Can a district or charter school complete the rating portion of the COSF at the ARDC meeting?**

Yes. The district or charter school may complete the rating portion of the Entry or Exit COSF prior to or immediately following an ARDC meeting. It is also appropriate to integrate the child outcome measurement into the IEP process by documenting supporting evidence for the COSF throughout the IEP process. For more information visit <http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/outcomes.asp>.

**7. Do districts complete the COSF for the children with services plans who are served in a private school?**

Districts should only collect data on three- and four-year-old children who are dually enrolled and who meet the criteria for Entry and Exit found on the TEA website at: [http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum\\_and\\_Instructional\\_Programs/Special\\_Education/Data\\_and\\_Reports/General\\_Information\\_-\\_SPP\\_Indicator\\_7/](http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/Data_and_Reports/General_Information_-_SPP_Indicator_7/)

**8. Should a district report data on the COSF for a five-year-old child who became eligible to receive special education services in March and turns six in April?**

No. The child would be receiving services for less than six months.

**9. If a child withdraws and moves to a new district, can the previous district share the child's COSF with the new district?**

Yes. It is recommended that a copy of the COSF be placed in the child's eligibility folder. The new district will need to complete a new entry COSF and enter data into the online SPP 7 application.

**10. If a child is enrolled and attends for only a few days and then withdraws, is a district required to complete a COSF?**

No.

**11. Who should be included on the team completing the COSF?**

When selecting members of the rating team, districts should choose individuals who are familiar with the child's functioning in the outcome areas across a variety of situations and settings. Educational professionals and the parents will work together to complete the COSF. The Early Childhood Outcome (ECO) Center has resources to expand team approach and several other resources to help teams determine a child's functioning with regard to the three child outcome statements. Visit <http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/outcomes.asp>.

**12. Who completes the COSF for students with speech impairments (SI) who are served in the regular early childhood program?**

The team completing the COSF would need to include the parent and other educational providers (e.g. Speech-Language Pathologist) who are familiar with the child's functioning in the outcome areas.

**Entry and Exit Questions:**

**Entry Specific Questions:**

**13. What date should be used when recording Entry data on the COSF?**

The date the child begins receiving special education services. For children, birth to age three, who receive services for auditory impairments (AI) and/or visual impairments (VI) from districts, see Question #15.

**14. Do we collect Entry Data at age three on children who receive AI and/or VI services from districts from birth to age three?**

The rating team will complete the COSF using current assessment data reflecting the child's current functioning levels upon the enrollment of a child with an auditory and/or visual impairment in a PPCD program at age three.

- 15. For districts that rely on ECI assessments for the Entry COSF data, how are they to handle the back date assessment portion of their data entry?**

If a district uses ECI assessments for special education eligibility, the date on the COSF will be the date the student begins special education services.

- 16. A child was receiving services as a three-year-old during the previous school year and was withdrawn from the district. This student returned as a four-year-old and re-enrolled in the same district in January of the next school year. Must an Entry COSF rating be completed on this student within 30 school days (not calendar days) of their re-enrollment?**

A new Entry COSF rating scale may be completed. However, if an Entry COSF exists in the SPP 7 online application for a child, the district does not need to complete another Entry COSF. The application will only allow a child to have one entry record per district.

- 17. How many entries and exits records can a child have listed in the SPP 7 online data application?**

The online data collection application allows a child to have ONE entry record per district and one exit record per child. Once a student has an Entry and Exit record in the system (completed and submitted) the SPP 7 application will not allow another Entry or Exit to be recorded for that student.

- 18. If an ARDC meeting was held months prior to service provision start date (e.g. ARDC in May, Start in August) is the Entry date the date the child first received services?**

Yes. The Entry date is the date the child begins receiving special education services.

- 19. Is the Entry data required for all children receiving services or only those new to the program?**

Districts should report data on children who meet the criteria for Entry and Exit criteria found on the TEA website at:

[http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum\\_and\\_Instructional\\_Programs/Special\\_Education/Data\\_and\\_Reports/General\\_Information\\_-\\_SPP\\_Indicator\\_7/](http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/Data_and_Reports/General_Information_-_SPP_Indicator_7/)

- 20. Is entry based on child's chronological age or at a certain point in time (e.g. child's birth date or September 1st)?**

Entry is based on when a child begins receiving special education services (enters PPCD) for the first time in a district or charter school, not on a specific date in time such as September 1st or when the child turns age three, four, or five.

- 21. Does the COSF need to be completed when the period of time between a child's services is initiated and the end of the school year is less than 30 days?**

A COSF must be completed if all assessments have been done, parent input has been gathered, and the rating team has a chance to meet and complete the COSF. It is recommended the COSF be completed as soon as possible after the child's entry in the program.

- 22. How soon after the child begins to receive services or transfers into a district will entry data be collected?**

Entry data should be recorded within 30 school days (not calendar days) after the child begins receiving special education services (enters PPCD).

- 23. Can exit data from ECI be used for COSF Entry data for preschool services?**

Yes. It can be used as one of the sources of information for the COSF.

### **Exit Specific Questions:**

**24. What date should be used on the COSF when recording Exit data?**

The last day the child received special education services in PPCD should be used when recording Exit data on the COSF.

**25. Is Exit data recorded on the same COSF that contains the child's Entry data?**

No. A second COSF must be used to record the Exit data. All students who exit from the program will have two completed COSFs in their eligibility folder.

**26. Do we complete questions A (top portion of the COSF) and B (bottom portion of the COSF) for exit?**

Districts must complete questions A and B on a second COSF. All students who exit from the program will have one completed Entry COSF and one completed Exit COSF in their eligibility folder.

**27. When collecting Exit data, how long does a district have to complete the COSF rating after a child has stopped receiving services and exited the program?**

The COSF should be completed as soon as possible after the student is no longer receiving services.

**28. Does the six months of consecutive service include extended school year (ESY) services?**

No. ESY is not included when calculating the consecutive months of service.

**29. When are Exit data collected on the child who turns six in July or August?**

If a child turns six after the end of the school year, or on or before September 1 of the subsequent school year, then assessments are conducted and summarized, progress data on the three outcomes are recorded on the COSF and entered into the online application during the last 30 school days (not calendar days) of the regular school year. In the case of a child receiving ESY, the assessments must be conducted, ratings completed and results reported prior to ESY.

**30. How many Exits can a child have recorded in the SPP 7 application?**

In the SPP 7 application, a child can only have ONE Exit record. Once a student has an Entry and Exit record in the system (completed and submitted) the SPP 7 application will not allow another Entry or Exit to be recorded for that student in the same district.

**31. What happens to the Entry record of students who leave a campus and never have an Exit record completed?**

Beginning in 2015-2016 data collection, all students who meet the criteria for exiting must have an exit reason recorded in the data collection prior to certification and submission.

**32. Will the campus be held accountable for a student with an Entry completed, but no Exit record?**

The district will be held accountable for reporting all children, ages three through five, who meet the Entry and Exit criteria.

### **TEAL ID Questions:**

**33. My TEAL request to access the online application as the District Certifier was denied. The reason for denial states that there is "only one certifier per district allowed". What does this mean?**

This indicates there is a person who is currently identified as the District Certifier. If the person established as the certifier has left that position or the district, that role will need to be revoked by the superintendent before a new

certifier can be approved and have access. The superintendent must log into their TEAL account and access the "User Administration +" application to revoke the role of the previous certifier. For further assistance with TEAL you may also contact: [computer.access@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:computer.access@tea.state.tx.us)

#### **SSA Questions:**

**34. What is the SSA's role and responsibilities in district data collection?**

Special Education Directors of SSAs have a responsibility to assist member districts in collecting the data and determining who will be responsible for reporting the data.

There is only **one** certifier per district.

**35. If I am a SSA serving multiple districts, do I have to have a TEAL ID for each district?**

No. Beginning the 2011-12 Data Collection year: Certifiers for SSA need only one user ID and password for TEAL to access all member districts. The TEAL account for fiscal agent will allow Certifiers to enter and certify data for all member districts in the SSA for SPP 7.

Current SPP 7 SSA Certifiers: To see all member districts in dropdown menu of SPP 7, the user logs into TEASL account using the username and password of fiscal agent. All TEAL accounts associated with member districts will become inactive in the spring of 2012.

New Certifiers: Apply for one account that is associated with fiscal agent.

ESC: No action is required of current SPP7 SSA Certifiers. If a district certifier cannot see their member districts in drop down, direct them to verify they are logging into TEAL with user name and password of fiscal agent.