



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

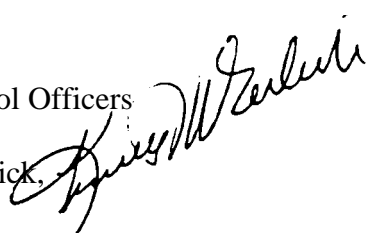
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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Chief State School Officers

From: Kenneth R. Warlick,   
Director  
Office of Special Education Programs

Subject: Questions and Answers on Mediation

In response to requests from the field for a document that restates and consolidates guidance that the Department has provided regarding mediation under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the attached question and answer document is being issued. The question and answer document restates the requirements reflected in the final regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997 (IDEA), Pub. L. 105-17, published on March 12, 1999, at 34 CFR Part 300, and the explanations provided in Attachment 1, Analysis of Comments and Changes, in response to public comments on the proposed regulations applicable to mediation.

The attached questions and answers have been prepared to assist State and local education officials, as well as parents of children with disabilities in understanding the requirements of Part B of the IDEA as applied to mediation. This question and answer document represents informal policy guidance; however, the statute and regulations upon which it is based are binding on public agencies receiving funds under Part B.

We hope that the attached question and answer document is helpful. Please ensure that this document is widely disseminated throughout your State so that this information can be provided to a large variety of individuals and organizations. If you or members of your staff have questions, please contact the persons whose names and telephone number are listed at the top of this memorandum.

Attachment

c: State Directors of Special Education  
Preschool Coordinators  
Federal Resource Centers  
Regional Resource Centers  
Office of Non-Public Education  
Protection and Advocacy Organizations  
Parent Training and Information Centers  
RSA Regional Commissioners  
Independent Living Centers