**Differentiated Monitoring and Support Engagement Decisions:**

***Massachusetts*   
2017-2018**

OSEP’s Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) system is a component of Results Driven Accountability. DMS is designed to identify potential grantee risk to the Department and to assist OSEP in effectively using its resources to monitor grantees. DMS addresses State-specific needs in the areas of results, compliance, State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), and fiscal by differentiating levels and types of monitoring and support based on each State’s unique strengths, progress, and challenges in each area.

DMS is a multi-tiered model for monitoring and providing support based on the principle that supports are first provided at a core or universal level to effectively address the needs of all States. DMS is focused on prevention to minimize the need for more targeted or intensive engagement at a later time. Targeted monitoring and support is generally based on OSEP’s identification of common needs among multiple States. Intensive monitoring and support is reserved for those States with the most intense or complex challenges to implementation.

OSEP developed an organizational assessment of States’ progress in meeting performance standards and compliance with the legal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Education Department General Administrative Regulations and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. The organizational assessment is used to help OSEP make decisions about a State’s levels of engagement for monitoring and support. In completing a State’s organizational assessment, OSEP used Federal Fiscal Year 2016 data for results, compliance, the SSIP, and fiscal management, along with information about the factors contributing to elevated needs. These factors include: previous support the State has accessed; the State’s capacity to improve results and compliance; and additional contextual information,

The charts below specify your State’s level of engagement in each area – results, compliance, fiscal and SSIP.

| **Results | Level of Engagement: *Universal*** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Factors** | **Existing/Current Engagement** |
| * Factors are only listed when the level of engagement is targeted or intensive. | OSEP continues to make information and technical assistance (TA) resources available, and provide universal support to all States. In addition, the State is receiving TA from National Center for Systemic Improvement. |
| **New Engagement** | |
| OSEP will provide universal support to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. | |

| **Fiscal | Level of Engagement: *Targeted*** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Factors** | **Existing/Current Engagement** |
| * Unresolved fiscal monitoring findings (within timelines) or the State has submitted information, but not sufficient * Proposed or final determination that the State failed to maintain State financial support. * Vacant or acting State director position * Size of the State's Grant award | OSEP continues to make information and TA resources available, and provide universal support to all States. In addition, the State is receiving TA from the Center for IDEA Fiscal Reporting. |
| **New Engagement** | |
| OSEP will contact the State and discuss the type of TA activities that would be appropriate to address the State’s specific needs. This may include establishing a schedule of regular contact with the State to determine the root cause of any fiscal issue and identify next steps for improvement. | |

| **Compliance | Level of Engagement: *Targeted*** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Factors** | **Existing/Current Engagement** |
| * Issues related to parentally placed private school students and dispute resolution procedures may negatively impact the education of children and students with disabilities | OSEP continues to make information and TA resources available, and provide universal support to all States. In addition, the State is receiving TA from the National Center for Systemic Improvement. |
| **New Engagement** | |
| OSEP will contact the Sate and discuss the type of TA that may be necessary to assist the State in improving IDEA compliance. This may include discussions to determine the factors impacting the State’s specific area of low compliance and working collaboratively with the State, and OSEP- funded TA providers, to ensure the State is in compliance with IDEA requirements. | |

| **SSIP | Level of Engagement: *Universal*** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Factors** | **Existing/Current Engagement** |
| * Factors are only listed when the level of engagement is targeted or intensive. | OSEP continues to make information and TA resources available, and provide universal support to all States. In addition, the State is receiving TA from the National Center for Systemic Improvement. |
| **New Engagement** | |
| OSEP will provide universal support related to the State’s SSIP. | |