



Activity Handout

Activity: Target Population (Requirement for LEAs identified with Significant Disproportionality)

Purpose

The purpose of the selection of a target population is to identify the students in the local educational agency (LEA) who need additional academic and behavioral support to succeed in the general education environment. As described in 34 C.F.R. Section 300.646(d)(2), each LEA determines the criteria for the selection of the students that will receive Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS) based on the root cause analysis process and the factors they found that contribute to their disproportionality. This target population is defined as “children from age 3 through grade 12, particularly, but not exclusively, children in those groups that were significantly over-identified, including children not currently identified as needing special education or related services but who need additional academic and behavioral support to succeed in a general education environment and children with disabilities.” An LEA may not limit CCEIS to children with disabilities nor can the target population equal the number of all students.

As CCEIS is intended to prevent over- or inappropriate identification, a majority, if not all, of the target population will be students not currently identified as students with disabilities. The exception to this may be LEAs identified as significantly disproportionate for placement and/or discipline. In these situations, the LEA may be focused on increasing instructional time in a general education environment for students with disabilities of the identified race/ethnicity or decreasing the disparate discipline experiences for students with disabilities of the identified race/ethnicity.

Instructions

- 1. Determine the Target Population Criteria:** The Educational Partners Group can assist with the exploration and documentation of the connection between the factors contributing to the LEA’s disproportionality and the selected criteria for the target population. Determine the specific criteria that will be used to select the students that will receive CCEIS and/or be the focus of systemic improvements (policies, practices and procedures) in the CIM Plan for Improvement.
- 2. Use the [Target Population Flow Chart](#):** This resource is used to review the LEA’s selected criteria for the target population to ensure compliance with 34 C.F.R. Section 300.646 and guide adjustments if needed. The [Target Population](#) video illustrates key points and common errors.
- 3. Describe the Target Population:** Describe and define, as needed, the criteria for inclusion in the target group that is specific and clear enough for appropriate monitoring of implementation of supports and services and tracking of specific students who receive CCEIS. Do not use generic language that leaves the determination up to interpretation, such as “students at risk.”
 - a) Provide an estimate of the number of students that will receive CCEIS, based on the selected criteria, using current student data.

b) Determine the race and ethnicity of the students that meet the selected criteria and provide the percentages disaggregated by race and ethnicity to demonstrate that the target population complies with the “particularly, but not exclusively, children in those groups that were significantly disproportionate” directive.

4. Plan for Tracking of the Students: To comply with federally required reporting, annually LEAs will submit to the CDE a form sharing the non-duplicated count of students who received CCEIS. As improvement activities are designed, it is crucial that the LEA include a mechanism to track the students receiving CCEIS using student identification numbers. These data will also be used by the LEA to monitor the student level outcomes of the implementation of their CIM Plan for Improvement.

Resources

[Target Population Flow Chart](#) (pdf)

[Target Population](#) (video)