**Special Class Integrated Setting Programs in New York State**

**School District, BOCES and CPSE Chairs and/or Committee Members**

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| --- |
| Submit completed survey to SCISmethodology18@nysed.gov no later than **August 14, 2017** |

**Under federal law, the presumption is that students with disabilities will attend the same schools they would have attended if they did not have disabilities and that removal or restriction from their regular schools and classrooms can only occur for reasons related to the student’s disability when the student’s individualized education program (IEP) cannot be satisfactorily implemented in that setting, even with the use of supplementary aids and services.**

**Pursuant to chapter 59 of the laws of 2017, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has been directed to recommend an alternative reimbursement methodology for preschool Special Class Integrated Setting programs. To develop its recommendation, NYSED is conducting a comprehensive review of the preschool Special Class Integrated Setting program including the program’s regulatory requirements and the existing funding methodology. This review will include consideration of integrated options within the State Administered Prekindergarten programs (defined as any program that receives New York State funding for prekindergarten education).**

**To develop its recommendation, NYSED is seeking information from relevant stakeholders to inform how changes to the existing program requirements and funding structure could be implemented to better support quality program opportunities for preschool students with disabilities to be educated in the least restrictive environment. The information provided as part of this survey has significant value to our work and we thank you for the time taken to respond to the questions below.**

School District, BOCES and CPSE Chairs and/or Committee Members

1. Please provide your contact information:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| School District or BOCES:  | INSERT ANSWER |
| County: | INSERT ANSWER |
| Name of Person submitting the survey: | INSERT ANSWER |
| Title:  | INSERT ANSWER |
| E-mail Address:  | INSERT ANSWER |
| Phone Number: | INSERT ANSWER |

1. What programs are available in your area to serve preschool students with disabilities in an early childhood setting with their typically developing peers? (check all that apply)

**Instructions: double click below on the box you want to check and under “default value” select “checked” for an X to appear in the box:**

[ ]  Special Class Integrated Setting [ ]  Special Education Itinerant Services

[ ]  Related Services [ ]  State Administered Prekindergarten

[ ]  Early Head Start or Head Start [ ]  Day Care/Nursery School

1. On a scale from one to five (**one being easy and five being difficult**) what effort is required to find a placement for a preschool student with a disability in the following Special Class Integrated Setting (SCIS) programs:

Full-day SCIS placement beginning in September

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Full-day SCIS placement beginning in January

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Half-day SCIS placement beginning in September

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Half-day SCIS placement beginning in January

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Full-day SCIS placement in summer (extended school year)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Half-day SCIS placement in summer (extended school year)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |

1. Are there equal educational opportunities for students placed in a SCIS program at 3 years of age and those placed at 4 years of age for preschool students with disabilities in your area?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No, if so explain below

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| INSERT ANSWER |

1. Data collected by the State Education Department indicates that there are regional variations in the number of preschool students with disabilities served in separate school settings rather than being served in a general education setting with their typically developing peers: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2015-memos/least-restrictive-environment-district-responsibilities.html>

Is there a need for more SCIS classrooms in any of the following? (check any that apply)

 [ ]  Full-day [ ]  Half-day [ ]  No additional Need

1. Does your District operate a NYSED approved SCIS program?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

* 1. If “No”
		1. What are the reasons for not operating a SCIS program?

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| INSERT ANSWER |

* + 1. What improvements or changes to existing regulations and funding would enable your district to operate the SCIS program?

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| INSERT ANSWER |

* 1. If “Yes”
		1. What program does your district operate or collaborate with for the typically developing children program component?

[ ]  State Administered Prekindergarten program [ ]  Day Care/Nursery School

[ ]  Early Head Start or Head Start

* + 1. What improvements or changes to existing regulations and funding would better enable you to operate the SCIS program?

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| INSERT ANSWER |

1. Does your district operate (either directly or through contract) a State Administered Prekindergarten program?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If “YES,”

* 1. How are preschool students with disabilities served in these classrooms? (check all that apply)

[ ]  Special Education Itinerant Services [ ]  Related Services

[ ]  District operated NYSED approved SCIS program

[ ]  Collaboration with separate NYSED approved SCIS program

* 1. How many of your State Administered Prekindergarten classrooms are integrated with a SCIS program?

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| INSERT ANSWER |

* 1. To increase the number of preschool students with disabilities enrolled and receiving education and related services within the State Administered Prekindergarten, what additional resources or funding/program supports would be needed to accommodate students?

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| INSERT ANSWER |

* 1. Please provide any example(s) of program models or methods used for children aged 5-21 to promote integrated opportunities for students with disabilities that could be applicable to increasing integrated options in a State Administered Prekindergarten program:

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| INSERT ANSWER |

1. In previous discussions with providers and stakeholders, the NYSED has identified potential challenges in operating a preschool SCIS program. Please check all that apply:

[ ]  Reimbursement rate does not support expenses for preschool special education program(s)

[ ]  Blended funding streams and reimbursement requirements are complicated

[ ]  Parents of typically developing children have reservations about placing their children in the same classroom with children with disabilities

[ ]  Shortage of appropriately qualified special education staff and related service providers

[ ]  Regulatory requirement to have a minimum of 16 children to operate a preschool special education program

[ ]  Regulatory requirement to have two appropriately certified teachers for preschool SCIS programs

[ ]  Regulatory requirement associated with restricting number of students with disabilities in one classroom to 6, 8 or 12

* 1. Please provide a description of the most challenging fiscal issues of increasing preschool integrated early childhood programs in your area:

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| INSERT ANSWER |

* 1. Please provide a description of the most challenging regulatory requirements of preschool integrated early childhood programs in your area:

|  |
| --- |
| INSERT ANSWER |

1. What should NYSED know, review, or consider when developing its recommendation to improve preschool special education integrated opportunities?

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| INSERT ANSWER |