

New Documents to Encourage Collaboration Between State Agencies, Local Agencies, and Head Start Programs

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Head Start are releasing new documents to encourage collaboration between state educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and Head Start programs to effectively meet the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.

- Dear Colleague Letter on Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Services
 in Head Start
- <u>Guidance on Creating an Effective Memorandum of Understanding to Support High</u> <u>Quality Inclusive Early Childhood Systems</u>

These documents make clear that SEAs, LEAs, and Head Start programs all have responsibilities for implementing IDEA to ensure that children with disabilities enrolled in Head Start programs receive a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.

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