Resources Supporting Early Childhood Inclusion | **2017**

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State Level Planning Tools and Resources

- **Considerations for Developing State Policy and Guidance on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs>** (July 7, 2017) an ECTA Center resource based on the *Joint Policy Statement on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs*. It is a tool for States to use in developing policy/guidance in order to implement high-quality inclusive practices across early care and education programs.

- **Preschool Inclusion Finance Toolkit 2017**. (July 7, 2017) an update of ECTA Center's resource that addresses updated guidance in the Dear Colleague Letter on Preschool Least Restrictive Environments published earlier this year. Worksheets included in this toolkit:
    - Early Childhood Programs Comparison Worksheet
    - Determining Costs Inclusive Worksheet

- **State Early Childhood Inclusion Self-Assessment** (May 17, 2017) was adapted by the ECTA and DaSy Centers from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education's Policy Statement on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs.

- **Resources for Reducing Suspension and Expulsion** ECTA web page contains federal guidance and resources including federally funded special projects designed to address these practices within states

Federal Policy and Guidance:

- **Dear Colleague Letter on Preschool Least Restrictive Environments** (January 9, 2017) Office of Special Education Programs - This letter provides updated guidance and clarification on: Key Statutory and Regulatory Requirements, Preschool Placement Options, Reporting Educational Environments Data for Preschool Children with Disabilities, and Use of IDEA Part B Funds for Preschool Children with Disabilities.

- **Policy Statement on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs** *(September 14, 2015)*: The U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services released guidance setting a vision for action that recommends states, districts, schools and public and private early childhood programs prioritize and implement policies that support inclusion, improve their infrastructure and offer professional development to strengthen and increase the number of inclusive high-quality early childhood programs nationwide. .

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Professional Development and Technical Assistance Resources

(2015) ELC TA Program & ECTA Center
The materials in these compilations focus on resources that can be used to prepare personnel to serve young children with disabilities in settings with their typically developing peers.
- Part 1: Description of Resources in the Compilation *(updated March 10, 2015)*
- Part 2: Matrix of Resources from Projects and National Associations *(updated March 10, 2015)*
- Part 3: Matrix of Resources Developed by Individual States *(updated July 8, 2015)*

Technical Assistance and Consultation with Local Programs

These resources from the ECTA Center are meant to assist programs and teams in understanding the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) requirements and determining appropriate placements: *(posted October 27, 2014)*
- Team Decisions for Preschool Special Education Services: Guiding Questions

- Determining Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Placements for Preschool Children with Disabilities: Reference Points and Discussion Prompts

- Key Principles Underlying the IEP Process: Supporting Family Participation, Inclusive Practices and Positive Outcomes for Preschool Children with Disabilities (2012), Workgroup on Principles and Practices for the IEP Process

- Key Practices Underlying the IEP Process: Supporting Family Participation, Inclusive Practices, and Positive Outcomes for Preschool Children with Disabilities (2012), Workgroup on Principles and Practices for the IEP Process

Barton, E & Smith, B. (2015). The Preschool inclusion toolbox: How to build and lead a high-quality program. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes.
Free downloadable forms and tools available at
http://www.brookespublishing.com/resource-center/download-your-materials/online-materials-preschool-inclusion-toolbox/

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