

# State Performance Plan

## Indicator 13: Secondary Transition



## Description of Stakeholder Engagement Activities & Results

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is currently developing the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) for the new six-year cycle for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020-2025. NYSED obtained stakeholder input using two central approaches:

- Broad public engagement and input through online surveys between October and November 2021; and
- Virtual meetings with stakeholder groups in November 2021.

The Office of Special Education (OSE) created a [Stakeholder Involvement](#) webpage with SPP/APR resources to promote feedback and engagement. This included a message from New York State Board of Regents member, Regent Cea, about the [SPP Stakeholder Meetings](#), an [SPP Stakeholder Invitation Letter](#), [At-a-Glance State Performance Plan Summary of Indicators 1-17](#), [Getting to Know New York's SPP/APR Handout](#), and SPP/APR FFY 2020-2025: [General Overview Presentation](#).

For Indicator 13, the OSE created the following resources designed to engage stakeholders and build capacity in data analysis, the consideration of existing improvement activities, and the development of potential new improvement activities:

### Resource Links

#### [Indicator 13: Secondary Transition Handout](#)

*A summary of the data used to measure this Indicator and existing improvement activities.*

#### [Introduction and Measurement Description](#)

*An overview of frequently used terms and explanation of Indicator 13 measurement.*

#### [Statewide Data Trends and Comparisons](#)

*Past trend data of reported performance from New York State, comparable states, and national mean to evaluate New York State's progress in this Indicator.*

#### [Improvement Strategies](#)

*An explanation of existing improvement activities and presentation of potential new activities to promote outcomes in this Indicator.*

#### [Closing](#)

*Additional resources to provide feedback and to evaluate school district performance on this Indicator.*

# Soliciting Public Input

## *Virtual Stakeholder Meetings*

Five virtual stakeholder meetings were held for Indicator 13. Meetings occurred both during the day and in the evening to accommodate different schedules. A total of 92 stakeholders participated in the meetings, including 14 parents. The meetings included an overview of the SPP/APR and viewing of the prerecorded webinar modules. Each session sought stakeholder feedback on what stood out to them about the trend data and how to use this data to evaluate New York State's progress on existing improvement activities, what activities could be installed, maintained, or strengthened to address improvements in secondary transition outcomes and any other feedback participants had regarding Indicator 13.

## *Online Survey*

Between October and November 2021, a total of 37 stakeholders completed the online survey for Indicator 13. The Indicator 13 online survey sought stakeholder feedback to evaluate the effectiveness of existing improvement activities in making progress toward secondary transition outcomes.

Themes of the stakeholder feedback received in the virtual meetings and online surveys on Indicator 13 included:

- Stakeholders generally preferred to have the SPP 13 review occur every three years, rather than the current six-year cycle.
- Stakeholders stressed that additional professional development in effective transition planning would aid in increasing New York State's movement toward 100% compliance.
- Stakeholders indicated that more improvement activities in the areas of collaboration among school personnel as well as with outside agencies were needed to develop more thorough and effective transition planning consistent with students' needs and abilities.
- Stakeholders also noted that professional development was needed to develop more thorough and effective postsecondary goals for the purpose of identifying students' long-term goals for living, working, and learning as an adult.

Following the collection of stakeholder feedback from the online survey and virtual meetings, internal workgroups comprised of NYSED OSE and Information and Reporting Services reviewed stakeholder responses to identify where recommendations for target-setting and/or improvement strategies could be amended to better align with the input received from parents, school administrators, educators, advocacy organizations, community members and other interested parties. The results of the OSE's incorporation of stakeholder feedback and evaluation of Indicator 13 progress with stakeholders is reflected in NYSED's 2020-2025 SPP/APR targets and OSE's development of improvement strategies as summarized further in this report.

## Stakeholder Meetings & Online Survey

Five virtual stakeholder meetings were held to discuss Indicator 13:

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00–11:30 AM

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00–11:30 AM

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00–8:30 PM

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 1:00–3:30 PM

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00–8:30 PM

A total of 92 stakeholders participated in the meeting, including 14 parents.

An online survey was published to collect stakeholder feedback over a six-week period.

A total of 37 stakeholders participated completed an online survey, including 16 parents.

NYSED values its partnership with parents and other key stakeholders in our ongoing efforts to improve outcomes for students with disabilities throughout New York State.

# Feedback on Improvement Strategies

Following the evaluation of Indicator 13 trend data on performance, stakeholder presentations included a description of improvement strategies with requested feedback on what activities should be considered, maintained, or strengthened to address improvements in secondary transition. The presented information and solicited feedback from a variety of stakeholders, including parents and educators, is intended to increase capacity to support activities around improving student outcomes and meeting the objectives of Indicator 13.

## Improvement Strategies Presented

*Existing Improvement Activities to Improve Indicator 13 Outcomes:* The OSE presentation included a summary of the [Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities](#) with secondary transition as a priority area; description of several State agencies that schools liaise with in connection with secondary transition; NYSED collaborations with those State agencies toward increasing opportunities for students going through the secondary transition process; and the OSE Educational Partnership targeted professional development resources to improve secondary transition outcomes in New York State.

## Stakeholder Feedback on Improvement Strategies

Participants of the online survey were asked to rank their perceptions of the effectiveness of the existing improvement activities to increase Indicator 13 outcomes. Both online survey participants and virtual meeting participants were asked whether they support the OSE potential new improvement activities for secondary transition and to rank them in order of importance. Stakeholders expressed support for the following:

- OSE's Youth Advisory Panel feedback on ways to improve the quality of special education services and student outcomes;
- Increased student participation in secondary transition planning;
- Increased agency participation and funding to support students;
- Increased parental awareness of community resources; and
- Training for students in self-determination and leading their IEP meetings.

In addition to the improvement activities presented, stakeholders provided the following for consideration:

- Increased collaboration among school staff and outside agencies toward improving outcomes for students on Indicator 13;
- Increased family engagement; and
- Continued, targeted professional development in the area of secondary transition.

**Stakeholder responses will be used by the OSE to identify priority areas for improvement and assist in the development of the strategies that will be implemented to promote secondary transition and meet performance objectives for Indicator 13 in the 2020-2025 SPP/APR.**