

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: ACCOUNTABILITY STATUS UNDER PART B OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)

Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [§300.600](#) requires each state to make determinations annually about the performance of each public school district (“district”) based on its annual performance relating to State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators. These determinations must be made in consideration of information obtained through monitoring visits, other public information made available, including any audit findings, and whether the data submitted by the district is valid, reliable, and timely.

States must consider compliance and may consider other performance indicators in relation to each state’s targets for improvement. Based upon this information, states must determine whether the district meets the requirements and purposes of the IDEA, or needs assistance, needs intervention, or needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements and purposes of the IDEA (34 CFR [§300.603](#)). New York State makes its annual IDEA determinations based on consideration of both a district’s performance and compliance outcomes.

Districts determined to need assistance, need intervention, or need substantial intervention in implementing the requirements and purposes of the IDEA will engage with staff from the New York State Education Department’s (NYSED) Office of Special Education and the Educational Partnership in activities designed to address the reason(s) for the district determination. NYSED will continue to progress monitor the district’s special education data outcomes and implementation of these activities to ensure resolution of any identified noncompliance and support improved outcomes for students with disabilities.

NEW YORK STATE IDEA DETERMINATION CRITERIA FOR 2025

Results Driven Accountability (RDA) Matrix

For the IDEA determinations issued in 2025 (applicable to the 2025-2026 school year), NYSED is using an RDA Matrix comprised of a Compliance Matrix and Performance Matrix designed to evaluate district outcomes for students with disabilities. Combined, the Compliance Matrix and Performance Matrix include twenty-one categories aligned with the following areas:

- 1) performance on SPP compliance indicators;
- 2) results and functional outcomes on SPP performance indicators;
- 3) valid and reliable data submissions;
- 4) correction of identified noncompliance; and
- 5) other data available relating to compliance with the IDEA, including any relevant audit findings.

The following table outlines each of the twenty-one RDA Matrix categories for the 2025 IDEA Determinations with associated maximum point values.

RDA Matrix Categories for the 2025 IDEA Determinations

Compliance Matrix	23 Points	Performance Matrix	22 Points
SPP Indicator 4B Suspension and Expulsion	2	SPP Indicator 1 Graduation	2
SPP Indicator 9 Disproportionate Representation	2	SPP Indicator 2 Drop Out	2
SPP Indicator 10 Disproportionate Representation in Specific Disability Categories	2	SPP Indicator 3B 4th Grade Reading	2
SPP Indicator 11 Timely Evaluation	2	SPP Indicator 3B 4th Grade Math	2
SPP Indicator 12 Early Childhood Transition	2	SPP Indicator 3B 8th Grade Reading	2
SPP Indicator 13 Secondary Transition	2	SPP Indicator 3B 8th Grade Math	2
Timely and Accurate Data	2	SPP Indicator 5A School-Age Regular Class > 80%	2
Correction of Noncompliance	5	SPP Indicator 5B School-Age Regular Class < 40%	2
Timeliness of Due Process Hearings	2	SPP Indicator 5C School-Age Separate Setting	2
Audit Finding Resulting in an Outstanding NYSED Enforcement Action, Specific Conditions or 15% Required Redirect on the District's IDEA Part B Grant Award	2	SPP Indicator 6A Preschool Regular Setting	2
		SPP Indicator 6B Preschool Separate Setting	2

RDA Matrix Scoring: Compliance Matrix and Performance Matrix

Points are awarded in the Compliance and Performance Matrix based on districts' achievement of targets published in the [New York State SPP](#) or based on the district's compliance with data reporting, due process timelines, audit and grant requirements, and timely correction of noncompliance. The district's Compliance points and Performance points are combined to calculate the district's RDA Matrix percentage (total points achieved divided by the total maximum points). For 2025 determinations, a total maximum of 45 points may be achieved; provided that if a district does not meet the criteria for any particular Compliance or Performance category, the district will receive "not applicable" or N/A for that category and the points associated with that category will not be included in the denominator used to calculate the district's RDA Matrix percentage.

Enforcement actions as a result of a district's IDEA determination are tiered based on the determination (needs assistance, needs intervention, or substantial intervention) and the number of consecutive years the district has been determined to not meet the requirements of the IDEA. Additional information regarding required enforcement actions is described in 34 CFR [§§300.600](#), [300.603](#); and [300.604](#).

School District IDEA Determination Criteria for 2025

The RDA percentage is used to identify the district's IDEA determination as follows:

Determination	Criteria
Meets Requirements	<u>RDA Matrix Score</u> : the district's RDA Matrix Percentage Score is greater than or equal to 80 percent.
Needs Assistance	<u>RDA Matrix Score</u> : the district's RDA Matrix Percentage Score is greater than or equal to 60 percent but less than 80 percent.
Needs Intervention	<u>RDA Matrix Score</u> : the district's RDA Matrix Percentage Score is less than 60 percent; or <u>Consecutive Years</u> : the district has been identified as Needs Assistance or Needs Intervention under the IDEA for 10 or more consecutive years.
Needs Substantial Intervention	<u>Compliance</u> : the district has significant noncompliance that remains uncorrected resulting in substantial failure to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) for its students with disabilities.