

# **BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES**

MARCH 28, 2025

# **Weekly Memo**

# **Rule Activity**

#### **Notice of Rule Development**

To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rule, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) <u>State Board Rules Under Review</u>:

• Rule <u>6A-6.03022</u>, Florida Administrative Code, Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Eligibility for Students with Dual Sensory Impairments

# **Events Coming Soon**

### Para-to-Teacher Tuition Support Program for Exceptional Student Educators

The Para-to-Teacher Support Program will hold a virtual question-and-answer session on **April 10, 2025**, with Dr. Keri Fogle. The Para-to-Teacher Support Program is an Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act-funded state project whose grant program has supported nearly 300 paraprofessionals to earn their degrees to become special education teachers throughout Florida. For more information visit the <a href="mailto:Para-to-Teacher Support Program">Para-to-Teacher Support Program</a> web page. To request the Zoom link for the virtual session, contact <a href="mailto:paratoteach@uwf.edu">paratoteach@uwf.edu</a>.

#### WWE 2025 Leaders' Event

WWE is pleased to announce the 2025 Leaders' Event for SLP, occupational therapy and physical therapy district coordinators from **April 22 to 23, 2025**, in Safety Harbor, Florida. For more information and assistance in registering, contact Jennifer Reeves at <a href="mailto:jreeves@coe.ufl.edu">jreeves@coe.ufl.edu</a>, or Alice Kaye Emery at <a href="mailto:jreeves@coe.ufl.edu">jreeves@coe.ufl.edu</a>.

#### **Action Items**

#### Florida CASE 2025 Awards Nomination Form

Nominations for the Florida CASE 2025 Awards are now open, and the deadline to submit nominations is **April 21, 2025**. See the attached document for more information and the nomination application. For questions, contact Dr. Rosalind Hall at <a href="mailto:drosalind1@gmail.com">drosalind1@gmail.com</a>.

Filename: Florida CASE Awards 2025 Application

#### **Informational Items**

#### Promotion to Grade 4 Technical Assistance Paper (TAP)

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the <u>Promotion to Grade 4 TAP</u>. See the memo for more information.

#### Restraint Data for February 2025 is Now Available

February 2025 data for restraint incidents submitted to the Involuntary Examination, Restraint, and Seclusion (known as IERS) web application is now available. The data have been posted to the <a href="Program Accountability">Program Accountability</a>, Assessments & Data Systems web page and can be located by scrolling down to the section titled "SWD Restraint Data – SY 2024-25," and selecting the appropriate month. Pursuant to section 1003.573(8), Florida Statutes, "The department shall maintain aggregate data of incidents of restraint and disaggregate the data for analysis by county, school, student exceptionality, and other variables, including the type and method of restraint used. This information shall be updated monthly, deidentified, and made available to the public through the department's website."

# Best Practices for Inclusive Education (BPIE) Assessment for Students with Disabilities (SWDs) Reminder

The BPIE assessment is an internal process designed to facilitate the analysis, implementation and improvement practices for SWDs who are served in regular classes. Section 1003.57, Florida Statutes, requires that once every three years, each school district and school complete a BPIE assessment. Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) facilitators are required to assist school districts in this process. The results of this process must be included in each school district's ESE policies and procedures. School BPIE assessments should be completed prior to the end of the school year. For more information regarding the completion of school BPIE assessments in your district, contact FIN, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-funded state project, at <a href="mailto:lisi-finadmin@fsu.edu">lisi-finadmin@fsu.edu</a>, or a local FIN facilitator at <a href="mailto:About Us-FIN">About Us-FIN</a> or <a href="mailto:Directory-FIN">Directory-FIN</a>. For additional information, visit the <a href="mailto:School BPIE Admin">School BPIE Admin</a> web page.

# Tip of the Week

## Try 'Reverse Inclusion' to Strengthen Peer Relationships

Select general education students who would be a good fit to visit more restrictive classroom environments for an activity or lesson. This gives special education students more opportunities to meaningfully engage with peers. (Special Ed Connection®)

Patricia Bodiford Bureau Chief





#### **Rookie ESE Administrator of the year:**

This individual is an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for 3 years or



less. This person should demonstrate vision and leadership skills that have supported children with disabilities and their families. The winner of this award will receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration for the 2026 Florida Winter Institute as well as the recognition of their peers at the Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute. Individuals nominated for this award are not required to be a member of CASE but **must** be a member of CEC.

#### **Outstanding ESE Administrator of the year:**

This individual is an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for 5 to 20 years. A person who demonstrates consistent, outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and



their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. Individuals nominated for this award must be a current member of National CASE. Winner of this award will also receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration for the 2026 Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award.

#### **Life Time Achievement Award:**

This individual is or has been an administrator of special education programs for 20 years or more and has demonstrated consistent



and outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. The nominee for this award must be a current member of CASE for a minimum of ten (10) years. Winner of this award will receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration to the 2025 Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute, National CASE or National CEC Conference and recognition at the Florida CASE Summer Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award. SELECTED by FLO-CASE Board of Directors



All nomination forms must be completed in its entirety and submitted to Melanie Sanders via email @ melanie.sanders@myoneclay.net no later than Monday, April 21, 2025. Nomination form is attached.



## FLORIDA CASE 2025 AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Date of Submiss	sion:				
(PLEASE CHECK ONE)  Rookie Special Education Administrator (3 yrs. Or less)  Outstanding Special Education Administrator (5-20 yrs. in the field)  Life Time Achievement Award (20 yrs. or more)					
NOMINEE's Name:			Nominated by:		
Email:			Email:		
Telephone/ Cell #:			Telephone #:		
Years of Experience:			N/A		

Request a vita of the nominee which includes professional memberships. Please include two (2) letters of support from other individuals which support your nomination.

RETURN FORM and accompanying documentation (2 letters of support) via email to Melanie Sanders, Secretary and Member-at-Large @

Melanie.sanders@myoneclay.net

Deadline for submission April 21, 2025.

Recipients of the awards will be announced at the CASE Summer Leadership Institute Wednesday, June 18

Thank you,

Ms Barbara Johns, President

Dr. Rosalind Hall, CASE Past President

