UNION AND HARDING COUNTY

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRANSITION TEAM

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The following agencies hereinafter referred to as “the parties” will enter into this agreement under the above lead agencies with services to families in Union and Harding counties, the NM towns of Clayton, Des Moines, Roy, and Mosquero, and four public school districts.

- THE CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP
- CLAYTON MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
- DES MOINES MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
- CHILDCARE INCLUSION SERVICES
- MOSQUERO MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
- NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (NMSD)
- NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED (NMSBV)
- PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO)
- ROY MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure the coordinated, smooth and effective transition of children and families as they move from early intervention services under Part C (Family Infant Toddler-FIT) services into Part B programs (public school
districts) and services within the required timelines for the benefit of children and families residing in the State of New Mexico. This agreement will be used by personnel of the organizations and families to understand the transition process in their area. This MOU concerns children ages birth to three years and their families participating in early intervention programs assisted under Part C of the Act, and who will participate in preschool programs assisted under Part B of the Act.

II. REQUIREMENTS IMPACTING THIS AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS, RULES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES:

- **Section 28-18-1.C NMSA 1978, States:**
  “If a child enrolled in the family, infant, toddler program has her/his third birthday during the school year, the child’s parents shall have the option of having the child complete the school year in the Family-Infant Toddler program or enrolling the child in the public school’s preschool program. A child with a disability who enrolls in the public school’s preschool program and who has his third birthday during a school year may receive special education and related services from the beginning of that school year.” Note: this statute will end on 6/30/12.


- Federal regulations for Part C of IDEA, “Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities” 34 CFR Part 303, Amended by Regulations Issued April 14, 1998 require in section 303.148

- Section 303.653 of the regulations to Part C of the Act-Transition services.

- Sec. 28-18-1 Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program Statute

- Sec. 22-13-5 Special Education Statute

III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. **DOH-DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

2. **FIT-FAMILY-INFANT TODDLER PROGRAM (PART C PROGRAMS)**

3. **NMPED OR PED-NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

4. **IDEA-INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT**

5. **IFSP-INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN**

6. **IEP-INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM**
7. LEA-LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY (SCHOOL DISTRICT)

8. EI-EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

9. PART C-THE PART OF THE IDEA, WHICH PROVIDES SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN BIRTH TO 3 YEARS OF AGE AND THEIR FAMILIES.

10. PART B-THE PART OF THE IDEA, WHICH PROVIDES SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AGES 3 TO 21 YEARS OF AGE.

11. FAPE-FREE AND Appropriate Public Education

12. STARS-STUDENT Teacher Accountability Reporting System

13. EDT-Eligibility Determination Team

14. NM TEAM-NM'S GUIDANCE FOR ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION UNDER THE IDEA

15. SEB—Special Education Bureau

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT

Copies of this Agreement will be given to each school's Special Education Director to be signed by either them or their school Superintendent of the participating LEAs, State-supported schools providing Part C and Part B services, Directors and Coordinators of Part C agencies, and to the DOH/NMPED-SEB, Early Childhood Transition Coordinator. Members of the Union and Harding County Transition Team, the developers of this Agreement, will also receive copies of this Agreement. It is the responsibility of the lead agency providing the Part C and Part B services to ensure that families, appropriate staff, and independent service providers are informed of this Agreement and its requirements. This Agreement will be made available to parents/guardians upon request to the lead agency providing Part C and Part B services to their child and/or children.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Upon completion of the transition process, parents/guardians will be asked to complete a transition checklist given to them by The Children's Workshop representative serving their family. That checklist will be reviewed by the early childhood transition team annually, and any necessary changes to the process will be discussed. It will be documented by the early childhood transition coach/Coordinator and shared with the team. At the beginning of each school year, the parties' leadership will be contacted via email updating the existence of this agreement with a summary of
its requirements. All agency representatives who are new to the positions at any of the agencies involved in this MOU will be provided with a copy of the MOU and asked to sign that they are aware of the agreement on behalf of their agency or LEA.

VI. INTERAGENCY DISPUTE PROCESS

In the event of a concern or dispute, relating to the MOU and or relating to the transition process, all cooperating agencies agree to contact the specific agency in which the concern arises in an attempt to resolve concerns. If concerns cannot be resolved in this way, or if concerns affect the larger group, concerns will be addressed and will be discussed during the Union and Harding Counties Transition Team meeting.

VII. DURATION

The Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective when signed by the respective agency heads as parties. Review of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be accomplished every four years by the parties and interim reviews may be conducted as necessary. Agreed upon changes shall be executed in writing by the parties. This Memorandum of Understanding shall be ongoing and shall not be terminated unless a party gives forty-five (45) days advance written notice to the other party of its intent to terminate its participation in the Memorandum of Understanding.

VII. WORKING PROCEDURES, TIMELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN TRANSITION PROCESS

**NOTIFICATION**

- Data on potentially eligible children sent to LEA.
- Local level data shared
NMAC 7.30.8.13 TRANSITION (B) (1) 7.30.8.13 TRANSITION (B)(1) The FIT Program shall provide notification to the public education department, special education bureau, of all potentially eligible children statewide who will be turning three years old in the following twelve month period. (2) The early intervention provider agency shall notify the LEA of all potentially eligible children residing in their district who will turn three years old in the following twelve month period. This will allow the LEA to conduct effective program planning. (3) The notification from the early intervention provider agency to the LEA shall:

(a) Include children who are potentially eligible for preschool special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B; potentially eligible children are those children who are eligible under the developmental delay or established condition categories;

(b) Include the child’s name, date of birth, and contact information for the parent(s);

(c) Be provided at least quarterly in accordance with the process determined in the local transition agreement; and (d) Be provided not fewer than 90 days before the third birthday of each child who is potentially eligible for IDEA Part B.

NMAC 6.31.2.11 (A) (5) (A) Each LEA shall survey Part C programs within its educational jurisdiction in its child find efforts to identify children who will be eligible to enter the LEA’s Part B preschool program in future years.

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<td>1. The Children’s Workshop will collaborate with the Regional Educational Cooperative in Child Find Activities.</td>
<td>The LEA will continue regularly scheduled communications with LEAs regarding children who may be eligible for IDEA-B services. The LEA will sign cover page and fax or mail that documentation back to the Part C Coordinator.</td>
<td>The Union and Harding counties transition team will schedule quarterly support and planning meetings for the purpose of facilitating the processes concerned in this agreement.</td>
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<td>2. At the initial IFSP, DOH-FIT providers (Part C) will begin transition planning with families.</td>
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<td>3. The Children’s Workshop Coordinator and/or New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD), Early Intervention &amp;</td>
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If service coordinating, the NMSD PICP Regional Supervisor will provide monthly notifications on the last day of the month to individual school districts via secure fax, or mail.
INvolvement (EIID)
Regional Supervisor will provide the Special Education Directors at each school district with a list of children potentially eligible to transition into their program monthly on the last day of the month by either hand delivery or through the mail. The list is to be provided not fewer than 90 days before the third birthday of each child who is potentially eligible for IDEA Part B. The list will include the child’s name, date of birth, and parent contact information. The LEA will not use this information to contact families at this time.
TRANSITION PLANNING

- Individualized steps and services added to IFSP

**NMAC 7.30.8.13 (C)**

1. A transition plan shall be developed with the parent(s) for each eligible child and family that addresses supports and services after the child leaves the FIT program.
2. The transition plan shall be included as part of the child’s IFSP and shall be updated, revised and added as needed.
3. The following is the timeline for developing the transition plan:
   - (A) at the child’s initial IFSP meeting, the transition plan shall be initiated and shall include documentation that the family service coordinator has informed the parent(s) regarding the timelines for their child’s transition;
   - (B) by the time child is 24 months old, the transition plan will be updated to include documentation that the family service coordinator has informed the parent(s) of the early childhood transition options for their child and any plans to visit those settings; and
   - (C) at least 90 days, and not more than nine months before the child’s third birthday, the transition plan shall be finalized at an annual IFSP or transition conference meeting that meets the attendance requirements of this rule.

**6.31.2.11(A)(4)**

Each public agency shall develop and implement appropriate policies and procedures to ensure a smooth and effective transition from Part C to Part B programs for preschool children with disabilities within the agency’s educational jurisdiction, in compliance with 34 CFR Sec. 300.124. Each LEA and other public agencies as appropriate shall make reasonable efforts to establish productive working relations with local Part C programs and when given reasonable notice shall participate in the transition planning conferences arranged by local Part C providers.

**6.31.2.11(A)(5)**

(b) Each LEA shall promote parent and family involvement in transition planning with Part C programs, community programs and related services providers at least six months before the child is eligible to enter the LEA’s Part B preschool program.
(c) Each LEA shall establish and implement procedures to support successful transitions including parent training, professional development for special educators and general educators, and student and parent self-advocacy training and education.
(d) Each LEA shall assist parents in becoming their child’s advocates as the child makes the transition through systems.

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<td>1. At the initial IFSP meeting the transition plan shall be initiated and shall include documentation that the family service coordinator has informed</td>
<td>1. LEA will collaborate with EI providers to facilitate family involvement to learn about the array of services provided by the school</td>
<td>1. NMSD and NMSBVI will provide information to parents/guardians of children who are eligible to transition regarding</td>
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<td>the parents regarding the timelines for their child's transition.</td>
<td>district.</td>
<td>options for services.</td>
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<td>2. <strong>BY THE CHILD'S 2\textsuperscript{nd} BIRTHDAY</strong>, THE TRANSITION PLAN WILL BE UPDATED TO INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION THAT THE FAMILY SERVICE COORDINATOR HAS INFORMED THE PARENTS OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD TRANSITION OPTIONS FOR THEIR CHILD AND ANY PLANS TO VISIT THOSE SETTINGS.</td>
<td>2. NMSD and NMSBVI will coordinate transition information/efforts with other service providers.</td>
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<td>3. <strong>A PROJECTED DATE WILL BE DECIDED UPON FOR THE TRANSITION CONFERENCE</strong>, AT LEAST 90 DAYS AND NOT MORE THAN 9 MONTHS BEFORE THE CHILD'S THIRD BIRTHDAY, IN WHICH THE FAMILY, POTENTIAL RECEIVING PROGRAMS (WITH PARENTAL CONSENT), THE CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP STAFF, AND ANY OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.</td>
<td>3. NMSD and NMSBVI will refer, with parent consent, to the local FIT early intervention providers or LEA, when appropriate.</td>
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<td>4. NMSBVI will support each family's efforts to have a current ophthalmologic report prior to transition.</td>
<td>5. NMSD will support each family in acquiring a comprehensive and current evaluation including audiological prior to transition.</td>
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REFERRAL TO LEA

- Referral form sent to LEA with parent consent

7.30.8.13 D (1)
A transition referral shall be submitted by the family service coordinator with parental consent, to the LEA at least 60 days prior to the transition conference. The transition referral shall include at a minimum the child’s name, the child’s date of birth, the child’s address of residence, and the contact information for the parent(s) including name(s), address(es), and phone number(s).

7.30.8.13 D (2)
For children who enter the FIT program less than 90 days before their third birthday, the family service coordinator shall submit a referral, with parental consent, as soon as possible to the LEA. This referral shall serve as the notification for the child. No further notification to the LEA shall be required for the child. (3) For children referred to the FIT program less than 45 days before the child’s third birthday, the family service coordinator shall submit a referral to the LEA, with parental consent, but the early intervention provider agency will not conduct an evaluation to determine eligibility in accordance with the referral and intake provisions of this rule.

7.30.8.7 K
“Consent” means informed written prior authorization by the parent(s) to participate in the early intervention system. The parent has been fully informed of all information relevant to the activity for which consent is sought in the parent’s native language and mode(s) of communication and agrees to the activity for which consent is sought. The parent(s) shall be informed that the granting of consent is voluntary and can be revoked at any time. The revocation of consent is not retroactive.

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<td>1. At least 60 days prior to transition conference (if possible near the child’s 2nd birthday), the family service coordinator will complete the Referral Form, with parental consent, and hand deliver or mail it to the appropriate Special Education Director and NMSD ECE Principal, if necessary.</td>
<td>1. The Special Education Director or his/her designee will complete Transfer of Information from Part C to Part B cover letter with a signature confirming receipt of the referral and return it to the family service coordinator.</td>
<td>1. NMSD will provide referral to the NMSD Outreach School Age Consultation Program to the receiving preschool if potential placement is other than NMSD Preschool.</td>
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<td>2. If NMSD Part B Services are a consideration, the NMSD ECE Principal will acknowledge receipt of</td>
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<td><strong>NMSD Part B services are a consideration.</strong></td>
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<td>2. If the child has a hearing or vision loss, the service coordinator will notify the NMSD or NMSVI outreach to provide consultation to the transition team.</td>
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<td>3. The Children's Workshop will offer families the opportunity to meet with a representative from Parents Reaching Out or a Childcare Inclusion Specialist, if appropriate.</td>
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<td>4. For children who enter the FIT program less than 90 days before their third birthday, the family service coordinator shall submit a referral, with parental consent, as soon as possible to the LEA. This referral shall serve as the notification for the child.</td>
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<td>5. For children referred to the FIT program less than 45 days before the child's third birthday, the family service coordinator shall submit a referral to the LEA, with parent consent,</td>
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<td>3. Parents Reaching Out are available to provide support, information, and training to help parents and families develop the skills and acquire the information needed to play an active role in the transition process, IEP development, and ongoing advocacy for their child.</td>
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<td>4. Childcare Inclusion Specialist is available to provide support, information, and training to help parents and families develop the skills and acquire the information needed to play an active role in the transition process, IEP development, and ongoing advocacy for their child.</td>
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<td>5. NMSBVI will refer, with parent consent to the local FIT early intervention providers or LEA, when appropriate.</td>
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but the early intervention provider agency will not conduct an evaluation to determine eligibility or begin services with the child.
PRE-PLANNING FOR TRANSITION CONFERENCE

- Coordinate among parents, FIT, LEA on conference date.
- Provide written invitation to Transition Conference to LEA and all parties.
- Send Transition Assessment Summary Form to LEA.
- **LEA reviews materials and determines who will attend.**

7.30.8.13 E. INVITATION TO THE TRANSITION CONFERENCE:
The family service coordinator shall submit an invitation to the Transition Conference to the LEA and other preschool programs at least 30 days prior to the Transition Conference.

7.30.8.13 F. TRANSITION ASSESSMENT SUMMARY:
(1) The family service coordinator shall submit a completed transition assessment summary form to the LEA at least 30 days prior to the Transition Conference.
(2) Assessment results, including present levels of development, must be current within six months of the Transition Conference.

7.30.8.13 G. Transition Conference: The Transition Conference shall:
(1) be held with the approval of the parent(s);
(2) be held at least 90 days and no more than nine months prior to the child's third birthday;
(3) meet the IFSP meeting attendance requirements of this rule;
(4) take place in a setting and at a time that is convenient to the family;
(5) be conducted in the native language of the family, or other mode of communication used by the family, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so;
(6) with permission of the parent(s), include other early childhood providers (early head start/head start, child care, private preschools, New Mexico School for the Deaf, New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, etc.).

6.31.2.11 A. (3) (b)
The Part B eligibility determination team shall review current assessments and shall determine the additional data and assessments needed for the comprehensive evaluation. Current assessments are defined as assessments, other than medical assessments, conducted no more than six months prior to the date of the meeting of the Part B eligibility determination team.

6.31.2.11 A (4)
Each public agency shall develop and implement appropriate policies and procedures to ensure a smooth and effective transition from Part C to Part B programs for preschool children with disabilities within the agency's educational jurisdiction, in compliance with 34 CFR Sec. 300.124. Each LEA and other public agencies, as appropriate, shall make reasonable efforts to establish productive working relations with local Part C programs and, when given reasonable notice, shall participate in the transition planning conferences arranged by local Part C providers.

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At least 30 days prior to the transition conference, the family service coordinator will complete the Transition Assessment Summary form and Transition Invitation form, with parental consent and either hand deliver or mail it to the Special Education Director, LEA and NMSD ECE Principle (if NMSD Part B services are being considered). and any other programs or persons the parents indicate they want to consider.

In the case of a child who is deaf or hard-of-hearing, and in accordance with DOH procedure and with parent consent, contact an NMSD EIID Regional Supervisor for technical assistance to the transition team in discussing communication considerations and the continuum of educational options.

| The Special Education Director or his/her designee will complete the cover letter with a signature confirming receipt of the Transition Assessment Summary form and the Transition Invitation form and return it to the service coordinator. |

| 1. NMSBVI will support each family's efforts to have a current ophthalmologic report prior to transition. |

| 2. NMSBVI will participate in EI Team meetings to complete the vision portion of the Transition Assessment Summary form. |

| 3. NMSBVI can assist with the transition process for qualifying children. |

| 4. The NMSD Service Provider or Regional Supervisor and/or the NMSBVI service provider will acknowledge receipt of the invitation. |

| 5. NMSD EIID Regional Supervisor is available for technical assistance to the transition team in discussing communication considerations and the continuum of educational options. |

| 6. If NMSD Part B services are a consideration, the NMSD Early Childhood Principal will acknowledge receipt of the invitation and transition assessment summary form. |
TRANSITION CONFERENCE

- Explain Part B and C procedures and safeguards.
- Provide prior written notice.
- Review if all current evaluations and/or assessments have been given to the LEA.
- Obtain consent for evaluation.
- Complete IFSP Transition Conference page; discuss program options and next steps with LEA.

7.30.8.13 (G) (7)
TRANSITION CONFERENCE: The transition conference shall be facilitated by the family service coordinator to include:
(A) A review of the parent(s)'s preschool and other service options for their child;
(B) A review of any, if needed, a finalization of the transition plan;
(C) A review of the current IFSP, the assessment summary and any other relevant information;
(D) The transmittal of the IFSP, evaluation and assessments and other pertinent information with parental consent;
(E) An explanation by an LEA representative of the IDEA Part B procedural safeguards and the eligibility determination process, including consent for the evaluation;
(F) As appropriate, discussion of communication considerations (if the child is deaf or hard of hearing) and Braille determination (if the child has a diagnosis of a visual impairment), autism considerations, and considerations for children for whom English is not their primary language.
(G) Discussion of issues, including enrollment of the child, transportation, dietary needs, medication needs, etc.
(H) Documentation of the decisions made on the transition page and signatures on the Transition Conference signature page, which shall be included as part of the IFSP. Copies of the Transition Conference page and signature page shall be sent to all participants.

6.31.2.11 (A) (5)(e)
Each LEA shall participate in transition planning conferences arranged by the designated Part C lead agency no less than 90 days prior to the anticipated transition or the child's third birthday, whichever occurs first, to facilitate informed choices for all families.

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<td>1. The Family Service Coordinator will discuss with the family their priorities for their child entering into the Part B</td>
<td>1. The Special Education Coordinator/Designee would attend the transition conference and provide program</td>
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<td>1. If the family chooses for the Child Care Inclusion Specialist to attend, the specialist will provide information on childcare inclusion supports and</td>
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<td>2. Provide updated information and/or assessments (with parental consent) and discuss with the family and other providers other activities that need to occur before the child transitions to support the child and family (i.e., completing enrollment forms, update immunizations, transportation issues, medical needs, etc.).</td>
<td>2. Provide consent for evaluation, as appropriate, and procedural safeguards to the family.</td>
<td>2. NMSD and NMSBVI will be invited to attend transition conferences, and will assist with consideration of placement options and adaptations that may be needed.</td>
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<td>3. If the family has not visited potential programs prior to the transition conference, the family service coordinator will help to schedule a visit.</td>
<td>3. Provide any other information that would pertain to the transition process.</td>
<td>3. NMSBVI and NMSD will provide current assessment information and present levels of performance in a timely manner when given sufficient notice to prepare reports.</td>
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<td>4. In the case that the family refuses Part B evaluation and eligibility determination, the family service coordinator will inform the family that Part C services will end at the child’s 3rd birthday.</td>
<td>4. Provide the family with a possible date for the eligibility determination meeting.</td>
<td>4. Provide consultation regarding appropriate assessment/evaluation for children with a visual impairment.</td>
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<td>5. The family will be</td>
<td>5. In the case of the family not being ready to proceed with the eligibility determination, Part B will contact the family at least 60 days prior to the child’s 3rd birthday to determine whether the family is ready to proceed with the process, and with signing the consent for evaluation form.</td>
<td>NMSD will:</td>
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<td>6. NMSD Center for Educational Consultation and Training (CECT) is available to provide consultation to the LEA</td>
<td>EIID staff will participate, when invited, in the transition conference and, if acting as FIT service coordinator, facilitate that conference per FIT regulations.</td>
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<td>EIID staff will support the team by providing consultation around communication considerations.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>The Service Coordinator will provide the family with a copy of the Transition Checklist for Parents form to evaluate the transition process 1 month after the child has transitioned.</td>
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<td>In the event of any party not being able to attend the transition conference, the family service coordinator will make every attempt to reschedule the conference.</td>
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<td>In the case of a child with hearing loss, with parent consent, the FIT service coordinator will contact an NMSD Early Intervention &amp; Involvement Division regional supervisor for technical assistance for the Transition Conference to discuss communication considerations and the continuum of</td>
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<td>regarding appropriate assessment/evaluation for children with hearing loss.</td>
<td>NMSD Center for Educational Consultation and Training (CECT) is available to provide consultation to the LEA regarding appropriate assessment/evaluation for children with hearing loss. When NMSD Part B services are a consideration, the NMSD EC principal will contact the LEA regarding its Joint Powers Agreement to collaboratively consider placement options.</td>
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educational options. In the case of a child with a documented visual impairment, the FIT Service Coordinator will contact NMSBVI for technical assistance during the 90 day conference to discuss the consideration of special factors: the child's needs and appropriate reading and writing media (including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille).
### INITIAL COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION FOR PART B

- Part B team reviews current available assessment data (including Part C assessments)
- Part B team determines additional data and assessments needed.
- Part B team conducts initial comprehensive evaluation process in all areas of suspected disability

#### 6.31.2.10

**E. PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE CHILDREN.**

1. **Each public agency must ensure that tests and other evaluation materials used to assess children are selected, provided and administered so as not to be discriminatory on a racial or cultural basis and are provided and administered in the child’s native language or other mode of communication, such as American Sign Language, and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally and functionally, unless it is clearly not feasible to select, provide or administer pursuant to 34 CFR Sec. 300.304(c)(1).**

2. **Each public agency must ensure that selected assessments and measures are valid and reliable and are administered in accordance with instructions provided by the assessment producer and are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel.**

3. **Each public agency must consider information about a child’s language proficiency in determining how to conduct the evaluation of the child to prevent misidentification. A child may not be determined to be a child with a disability if the determinant factor for that eligibility determination is limited English proficiency. Comparing academic achievement results with grade level peers in the public agency with similar cultural and linguistic backgrounds should guide this determination process and ensure that the child is exhibiting the characteristics of a disability and not merely language difference in accordance with 34 CFR Sec. 300.306(b)(1).**

4. **Each public agency must ensure that the child is assessed in all areas related to the suspected disability.**

5. **Policies for public agency selection of assessment instruments include:**
   - (a) Assessment and evaluation materials that are tailored to assess specific areas of educational need; and
   - (b) Assessments that are selected ensure that results accurately reflect the child’s aptitude or achievement level.

6. **Public agencies in New Mexico shall devote particular attention to the foregoing requirements in light of the state’s cultural and linguistic diversity. Persons assessing culturally or linguistically diverse children shall consult appropriate professional standards to ensure that their evaluations are not discriminatory and should include appropriate references to such standards and concerns in their written reports.**

#### 6.31.2.11 (A) (3)

To ensure effective transitioning from IDEA Part C programs to IDEA Part B programs, each public agency must conduct a full and individual initial comprehensive evaluation at no cost to the parent and in compliance with requirements of 34 CFR Secs. 300.300, 300.301, 300.302, 300.304 and 300.305 and other Department rules and standards before the initial provision of Part B special education and related services to a child with a disability. **(A) The initial comprehensive evaluation process shall be conducted in all areas of suspected disability.**
1. The Special Education Coordinator and Staff are responsible for completing an evaluation within 60 calendar days from date of parent/guardian signing the Consent for Evaluation form.

2. Information to be included in the initial evaluation: information provided from Part C that is no older than 6 months from the date of the transition conference, information provided by the family, a current vision and hearing screening within one year, a language inventory, and comprehensive assessments needed in the area of the perceived disability.

3. NMSD CECT is available to provide consultation regarding appropriate assessment and evaluation for children with hearing loss.
ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION MEETING

6.31.2.11(A)(5)(f)
Each LEA shall designate a team, including parents and qualified professionals, to review existing evaluation data for each child entering the LEA's preschool program in compliance with 34 CFR Sec. 300.305 and, based on that review, identify what additional data, if any, are needed to determine the child's eligibility for Part B services or develop an appropriate program.

6.31.2.10
F. Eligibility Determinations.

(1) General rules regarding eligibility determinations

(a) Upon completing the administration of tests and other evaluation materials, a group of qualified professionals and the parent of the child must determine whether the child is a child with a disability, as defined in 34 CFR Sec. 300.8 and Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 6.31.2.7 NMAC. The determination shall be made in compliance with all applicable requirements of 34 CFR Sec. 300.306.

(b) The public agency must provide a copy of the evaluation report and the documentation of determination of eligibility to the parent.

6.31.2.7(B)(2) "Child with a disability" means a child who meets all requirements of 34 CFR Sec. 300.8 and who:

(a) is aged 3 through 21 or will turn 3 at any time during the school year;

(b) has been evaluated in accordance with 34 CFR Secs. 300.304-300.311 and any additional requirements of these or other public education department rules and standards and as having one or more of the disabilities specified in 34 CFR Sec. 300.8 including intellectual disability; a hearing impairment including deafness; a speech or language impairment; a visual impairment including blindness; emotional disturbance; orthopedic impairment; autism; traumatic brain injury and other health impairment; a specific learning disability; deaf-blindness; or being developmentally delayed as defined in 6.31.2.7(B)(4) NMAC and who has not received a high school diploma; and

(c) at the discretion of each local educational agency and subject to the additional requirements of Subsection 2 of Paragraph F of 6.31.2.10 NMAC, the term "child with a disability" may include a child aged 3 through 9 who is evaluated as being developmentally delayed and who, because of that condition, needs special education and related services.

(6.31.2.7(B) (19) NMAC
as authorized by 34 CFR §§ 300.8 and 300.39, "special education" in New Mexico may include speech-language pathology services.)
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<th>FIT PROVIDER</th>
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<td>The child's family service coordinator from FIT may accompany the family to</td>
<td>1. Prior to the child's 3rd birthday, the LEA will schedule an eligibility</td>
<td>NMSBVI will participate, with parental permission on the IFSP/IEP team.</td>
<td>8. NMSBVI and NMSD will provide current assessment information and present levels of</td>
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<td>the eligibility determination meeting at the parent's request, and will be provided</td>
<td>determination meeting at a time that is agreed upon with the family.</td>
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<td>performance in a timely manner, when given sufficient notice to prepare reports to be</td>
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<td>a copy of the eligibility determination report with parent consent.</td>
<td>2. People to be invited with the parent's consent: FIT Provider, and other</td>
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<td>used in eligibility determination and program design.</td>
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<td>appropriate agencies. The invitation will be mailed to all participants</td>
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<td>9. NMSD EIID staff attends when the child has been receiving those services under Part C.</td>
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<td>(standard rule/ten days prior). If the child will be turning 3 during the</td>
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<td>10. The NMSD Center for Educational Consultation and Training (CECT) consultant is</td>
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<td>summer months when school is not in session, the LEA may develop the IEP in</td>
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<td>available for consultation regarding Part B eligibility for any child who has a hearing</td>
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<td>the spring prior to the child's third birthday.</td>
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<td>loss.</td>
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<td>5. With written consent from the family, a copy of the evaluation and</td>
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<td>11. When NMSD Part B services are a consideration, the NMSD EC Principal will attend</td>
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<td>eligibility determination form will be provided to Part C.</td>
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<td>the EDT</td>
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<td>6. The NMSD Center for Educational Consultation and Training (CECT)</td>
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<td>consultant is available for consultation regarding Part B eligibility</td>
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<td>for any child who has a hearing loss.</td>
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<td>7. When NMSD Part B services</td>
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<td>are a consideration, the NMSD</td>
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<td>EC Principal will attend the EDT</td>
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EVALUATION REPORT AND DOCUMENTATION OF ELIGIBILITY SENT TO PARENT

6.31.2.10
F. ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS.
   (1) GENERAL RULES REGARDING ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS
   (a) UPON COMPLETING THE ADMINISTRATION OF TESTS AND OTHER EVALUATION MATERIALS, A GROUP OF QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS AND THE PARENT OF THE CHILD MUST DETERMINE WHETHER THE CHILD IS A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY, AS DEFINED IN 34 CFR Sec. 300.8 AND PARAGRAPH (2) OF SUBSECTION B OF 6.31.2.7 NMAC. THE DETERMINATION SHALL BE MADE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF 34 CFR Sec. 300.306.
   (b) THE PUBLIC AGENCY MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF THE EVALUATION REPORT AND THE DOCUMENTATION OF DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO THE PARENT.

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<td>WITH WRITTEN PARENT CONSENT FIT</td>
<td>LEA WILL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION REPORT TO</td>
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<td>DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST/ SERVICE</td>
<td>THE PARENT/GUARDIAN AND, WITH WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE FAMILY, TO THE FIT STAFF MEMBER.</td>
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<td>COORDINATOR WILL RECEIVE THE</td>
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<td>ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION REPORT</td>
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INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP) DEVELOPED

6.31.2.11 A (5) (6) Development of IFSP, IEP or IFSP-IEP.
(I) The IFSP, IEP, or IFSP-IEP will be developed by a team constituted in compliance with 34 CFR Sec. 300.321 that includes the parents. For children transitioning from Part C programs to Part B programs, the team must also include one or more Early Intervention providers who are knowledgeable about the child. "Early Intervention providers" are defined as Part C Service Coordinators or other representatives of the Part C system.

7.30.8.13 I (1)
The Family Service Coordinator and other Early Intervention personnel shall participate in a meeting to develop the IEP (or IFSP-IEP) with parent approval. (2) The Family Service Coordinator, with parent consent, shall provide any new or updated documents to the LEA in order to develop the IEP.

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<td><strong>FIT Developmental Specialist/ Service Coordinator</strong> will attend the IEP as an advocate for the family and a source for information</td>
<td>1. The IEP Team is responsible for the development of the IEP.</td>
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<td>1. NMSBVI and NMSD (PICP &amp; CECT) will be invited to the IEP at the parent/guardian's request.</td>
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<td>2. The invitation to the IEP meeting will be mailed to the parent/guardian at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date for the meeting.</td>
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<td>NMSBVI &amp; NMSD CECT Consultant will collaborate with the LEA in planning placement options and provide for appropriate programming and service delivery.</td>
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<td>• Other agencies that are invited to the meeting with the approval of the parent/guardian, will be notified in writing through the invitation to the IEP meeting.</td>
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<td>NMSBVI staff is available to participate on the IEP team and assistance setting goals and objectives, provide suggestions for environmental modifications and provide recommendations for level of service.</td>
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<td>3. The IEP will be developed according to Federal and State</td>
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<td>REGULATIONS.</td>
<td>3. NMSBVI STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING THE LITERACY MODE (AUDITORY, VISUAL, TACTILE) OF EACH TRANSITIONING CHILD WHO WE ARE SERVING IN OUR INFANT TODDLER PROGRAM, COMPLETING THE CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL FACTORS FORM, AND FOR MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE LITERACY MODE FOR THE CHILD TO THE IEP TEAM UPON TRANSITION. THE CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL FACTORS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY A TEACHER OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.</td>
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<td>3. IF THE CHILD’S THIRD BIRTHDAY OCCURS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, TRANSITION SHALL OCCUR BY THE FIRST SCHOOL DAY AFTER THE CHILD TURNS THREE; OR IF THE CHILD’S THIRD BIRTHDAY OCCURS DURING THE SUMMER, THE CHILD’S IEP TEAM SHALL DETERMINE THE DATE WHEN SERVICES UNDER THE IEP WILL BEGIN.</td>
<td>NMSD EIID PROVIDER WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE IEP MEETING WITH PARENT PERMISSION. NMSD EIID STAFF IS AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE POST TRANSITION “FOLLOW UP” SERVICES UP TO 30 DAYS AFTER THE CHILD’S THIRD BIRTHDAY WITH PARENT PERMISSION.</td>
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<td>4. IN THE CASE OF A CHILD WITH A HEARING LOSS, EVEN IF THE HEARING LOSS IS NOT THE CHILD’S PRIMARY CONDITION, THE COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH A HEARING LOSS IEP ADDENDUM MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE IEP TEAM TO FACILITATE DISCUSSION AROUND THE CHILD’S COMMUNICATION NEEDS. NMSD CECT STAFF ARE AVAILABLE TO IEP TEAMS FOR SUPPORT AND CONSULTATION.</td>
<td>NMSD CECT STAFF IS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE IEP TEAM REGARDING THE COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH A HEARING LOSS IEP ADDENDUM EVEN IF THE HEARING LOSS IS NOT THE CHILD’S PRIMARY DISABILITY.</td>
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<td>5. IF THE CHILD IS ELIGIBLE FOR NMSD PART B PROGRAM, NMSD EC PRINCIPAL WILL COORDINATE THE IEP WITH THE LEA.</td>
<td>NMSD CECT STAFF IS AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON THE IEP TEAM AND ASSISTANCE SETTING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATIONS AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEVEL OF SERVICE.</td>
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<td>3. NMSBVI STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING THE LITERACY MODE (AUDITORY, VISUAL, TACTILE) OF EACH TRANSITIONING CHILD WHO WE ARE SERVING IN OUR INFANT TODDLER PROGRAM, COMPLETING THE CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL FACTORS FORM, AND FOR MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE LITERACY MODE FOR THE CHILD TO THE IEP TEAM UPON TRANSITION. THE CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL FACTORS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY A TEACHER OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.</td>
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WITH THE LEA.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

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<tr>
<th>Name of Person Signing, Title</th>
<th>Agency Name</th>
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

Kristi Halus, MA
Kris Halus, Early Intervention & Involvement Dept.
Regional Supervisor
New Mexico School for the Deaf

__________________________
Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name

__________________________
Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name

__________________________
Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name

4/30/2019
Date

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Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name

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Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name

__________________________
Name of Person Signing, Title
Agency Name
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the following signatures are affixed:

SIGNATURES/DATES

Make sure that all the parties to the agreement sign and date it. All the parties listed in the heading of the agreement must sign. Without a signature to the agreement, the agency is not accountable. Assure that a person in authority from the agency is signing the agreement. The agreement can be signed at a meeting with the agencies involved.

Patricia Zamora-Pompeo, Early Childhood Program Coordinator

4-30-19

Date
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

Ronda Daley, DVS, TVI

New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE: AGENCY NAME

DATE: 4-25-19

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE: AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE: AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE: AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE: AGENCY NAME

DATE
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

Kodi L. Schuster  
Des Moines Schools - Superintendent  
4/24/19

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
SPED Director
AGENCY NAME
Roy Municipal Schools
DATE 4/25/2019

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

[Signatures and dates]

[Names and titles]

[Agency names]
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES ARE AFFIXED:

Janis Ruf, SE
Clayton Morgan Schools
4-23-19

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

DATE

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

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NAME OF PERSON SIGNING, TITLE
AGENCY NAME

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