

Subject: ECSE/First Steps/Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Updated Questions and Answers Available Online

Source: Pam Thomas, Coordinator of First Steps Program and Pam Williams, Coordinator of Special Education Services

Intended Audience: Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Directors, Teachers, System Point of Entry (SPOE) Directors, and Service Coordinators

Date: May 9, 2013

The State Performance Plan (SPP), required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), includes an indicator that requires data collection on early childhood outcomes (ECO). The ECO is designed to gather entry and exit performance data for children receiving services in Part C of IDEA (First Steps Program) and Part B (Early Childhood Special Education).

A previously recorded webinar sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is available online for First Steps System Points of Entry (SPOE) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) personnel to review at: <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/webinar01-25-13-SE.htm>. Additionally, key questions from the webinar have been answered and are available online at: <http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/ECOtraining.html> under Additional Resources.

SPOE and ECSE administrators/special education directors are encouraged to use the video and FAQ to ensure all staff responsible for administration of the ECO are adequately trained and knowledgeable on all of the requirements and practices, which includes collaborating between First Steps and ECSE programs as well as collecting and reporting ECO data.

For First Steps - If you need further information regarding ECO, please contact your Area Director.

For ECSE - If you need further information regarding the administration of ECO, contact Ginger Henry at Ginger.Henry@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-0625. For

information regarding data collection and reporting, contact Tanya Pleus at Tanya.Pleus@dese.mo.gov or 573-526-4995.