


Connecticut State Department of Education

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TO: Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services
Directors of Private Approved Special Education Facilities
Directors of Charter Schools

FROM: Leslie M. Avera, Associate Commissioner 
Division of Educational Programs and Services

DATE: April 29, 1998

SUBJECT: Update #12

We recently returned from the OSEP Conference in Washington, D.C., at which Thomas Hehir responded to questions regarding IDEA 97. He said that the Regulations would be completed AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, and reassured us that OSEP would be responsive to the comments provided to them. To that end, OSEP has sent a memo of "informal guidance" to the Chief State School Officers regarding a change in interpretation of implementation of the IEP requirements. I am enclosing it for your careful review and consideration.

I am also enclosing a copy of a document entitled, "*Functional Behavioral Assessment: Policy Development in Light of Emerging Research and Practice*," for your information.

We'll keep you posted as things develop.

cc: Theodore S. Sergi, Commissioner, Department of Education
Betty Sternberg, Division of Curriculum & Instruction
John Mattas, CAPSEF
Edward Prenata, Council on Developmental Disabilities
Bonnie Moran, Special Education Advisory Council
Bureau Staff