SUBJECT: Special Education Plan Requirements – Identification of Students with Specific Learning Disabilities using the Response to Intervention

TO:   Intermediate Unit Executive Directors
       Intermediate Unit Special Education Directors
       School District Superintendents
       Charter Schools
       District Special Education Directors

FROM: Patricia Hozella
       Interim-Director
       Bureau of Special Education

School districts that would like to apply for approval to use Response to Intervention (RTI) methodologies for the purpose of identification of students with a Specific Learning Disability will be required to submit their intent to apply for the 2019-2020 school year by October 30, 2019 to their regional PATTAN consultant.

The previous application required individual applications for individual buildings within an LEA. If the LEA determines they would like to use RTI for SLD, they must now submit an application for individual building Levels (i.e. Elementary, Middle and/or High School). For example, the LEA only will be required to submit one application for all elementary buildings within the LEA.

The RtI/SLD Application may be found on the PATTAN website: https://www.pattan.net/Multi-Tiered-System-of-Support/Response-to-Intervention-RTI/RTI-SLD-Determination

Completed applications must be submitted to PaTTAN MTSS regional lead consultants – Dr. Jennifer Collins (jcollins@pattan.net)/Harrisburg; Mrs. Jeannie Hertzler (jhertzler@pattanpgh.net)/Pittsburgh; or Mrs. Donna Halpin (dhalpin@pattankop.net)/East – no later than February 15,2020.

Upon review of all documentation, the BSE will issue a letter which determines whether the renewal will be approved, disapproved, or more clarification is necessary.

Questions related to this message may be directed to Jessica Keener Haas at 610-678-6059 or jesshaas@pa.gov

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