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MEMORANDUM

TO: Exceptional Student Education Directors

FROM: Monica Verra-Tirado, Ed.D. *MVT*

DATE: June 6, 2013

**SUBJECT: EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION – PREKINDERGARTEN
DISABILITIES ENDORSEMENT**

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) is providing updated information related to frequently asked questions regarding the prekindergarten disabilities endorsement. The attached question and answer document replaces guidance previously provided via memorandum released on May 28, 2010, as well as earlier memorandums released on July 28, 2006 (K-12 Memo 2006-104), and September 30, 2005 (K-12 Memo 2005-135). Exceptional student education (ESE) teachers are encouraged to work with their principals, ESE directors and district personnel offices to determine their need for this endorsement.

Additionally, we are pleased to inform you that a set of prekindergarten disabilities modules have been developed and are now available for districts to use to establish an add-on endorsement program. These materials were developed by the ESE Personnel Development Support Project, BEESS, Florida Department of Education (FDOE), in conjunction with the Lee County School District.

There are three modules: 1. Typical and Atypical Development; 2. Assessment and Evaluation; and 3. Curriculum. Each module includes sessions that contain agendas, PowerPoint presentations, trainer notes, materials and resources. These modules were designed to be downloaded and offered through a face-to-face facilitated model. This is not a self-paced online

MONICA VERRA-TIRADO, ED.D., CHIEF
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

Exceptional Student Education Directors
June 6, 2013
Page Two

course. This option is available for teachers in lieu of taking college courses to earn the prekindergarten disabilities endorsement. In order to satisfy specialization requirements in Rule 6A-4.01792, Florida Administrative Code, participants must complete all three modules. Neither college credit or teaching experience can be substituted for any of the three modules.

These modules can be accessed by district staff only. In order to obtain a password to view the content, you may contact Janie Register, program specialist, Prekindergarten Program for Children with Disabilities, at Janie.Register@fldoe.org. Once a password is obtained, the modules may be viewed at <http://www.florida-ese.org/prekdisabilities/>.

Electronic copies of the Prekindergarten Disabilities Endorsement District Add-On Plan must be submitted for approval to Denise Scheidler, program specialist, Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Teacher Recruitment, at Denise.Scheidler@fldoe.org. Please follow the guidelines as referenced in the Add-On Certification Manual that is available at the following link when developing the plan: <http://www.fldoe.org/profdev/pdf/add-on-manual.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Janie Register at Janie.Register@fldoe.org.

MVT/jrs

Attachment

cc: District Prekindergarten Disabilities Contacts
District Certification Officers
District Staff Development Coordinators
Denise Scheidler
Janie Register