

COOPERATIVE AND INTERLOCAL DISTRICT ARRANGEMENT FOR CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that select to pool their funds must sign this letter of intent to participate in a special education cooperative arrangement (this is an arrangement that exists under federal law) or an interlocal cooperative (this is a cooperative entity that is created through a specific process under Oklahoma statute 70 O.S. 5-117b. also known as an "interlocal co-op"). Participating cooperative LEAs other than interlocal co-ops should elect one LEA to act as the fiscal agent for funds.

LEAs participating in a cooperative arrangement or an interlocal co-op must receive goods or services from the cooperative entity. The special education cooperative cannot act as a flow-through agent, but must provide a program consisting of the provision of goods and/or services (70 O.S. § 5-117).

It is not allowable for cooperatives or interlocal co-ops to pay federal special education funds to participating LEAs without providing goods and/or services. Applications for funds will not be approved if funds simply flow to participating LEAs without the provision of either goods or services. Payment will not be made to cooperatives or interlocal co-ops who are merely reimbursing participating LEAs.

Federal special education funds are paid on a reimbursement basis only, for goods and/or services received. Warrants must be paid prior to the submission of an expenditure report (34 CFR 80.41). The fiscal agent must utilize Fund 12 (Co-op Fund).

Public Schools will serve as the fiscal agent for the following districts electing to form a special education cooperative or interlocal co-op for special education services (eg., Oklahoma/OSDE (99I099). If not the same, please indicate the previous year fiscal agent.

		*621 \$	*641 \$	
	County/District	Amount or	Amount or	Signature of Superintendent
	Name/Code	Percentage	Percentage	
Lead Fiscal				
Agent				
Participating				
LEA				
Participating				
LEA				
Participating				
LEA				
Participating				
LEA				

NOTE: An LEA Agreement for Special Education in Oklahoma and Assurances must be submitted for each LEA participating in the cooperative or interlocal co-op. In addition, each participating LEA is still responsible for the compliance with IDEA Part B of the cooperative or interlocal as it relates to each child of the LEA served by the cooperative or interlocal.

Each LEA participating in a cooperative arrangement for the provision of special education services retains the responsibility to ensure that each of its students receives a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), so LEAs participating in such arrangements should monitor service provision as necessary to ensure each student is receiving a FAPE.

Prior to the release of IDEA Part B funds to the special education cooperative or interlocal co-op, the fiscal agent of the cooperative or interlocal co-op must print this page, obtain each LEA superintendent's signature, and mail an original copy to:

Oklahoma State Department of Education Special Education Services – Suite 411 ATTN: Finance Division 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599