

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education – Office of Special Education  
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities  
State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and  
State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG), January 2022**

**State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)**

- The Office of Innovation finalized a synthesis focused on professional learning, collaboration, and coaching. Over 155 educators participated from across the state to offer stakeholder feedback. Scan the QR code to access the Synthesis and Executive Summaries



- Quitman Public Schools and Searcy School District are the first official partnered districts.



Searcy School District

Quitman Public Schools

- The SPDG is currently working with WestEd to support districts with:
  - Strategic direction, shared language, and vision related to Response to Intervention
  - Establishing a foundation of improvement science methodologies and mindsets

**State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)**

**Inclusive Practices:**

The SSIP Coordinator has continued to work with the UA-Little Rock IDEA Data and Research Director and DESE-OSE leadership to facilitate stakeholder engagement opportunities for the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report target setting. A parent stakeholder engagement session was hosted on 12-16-2021 with DESE-OSE, the IDEA Data and Research Center, and The Center for Exceptional Families (TCFEF).

The SSIP Coordinator, along with the DESE Director of Special Programs and the DESE-OSE Coordinator for Curriculum and Assessment have continued a series of trainings targeting Inclusive Practices across the state. Aspects of the SSIP Theory of Action are covered throughout these professional learning opportunities including Professional Learning Communities (PLC), High Reliability Schools (HRS), Response to Intervention (RTI), Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) and High Leverage Practices (HLPs).

### **SSIP Theory of Action:**

If DESE aligns and coordinates existing resources, systems, and DESE initiatives: High Reliability Schools (HRS), Professional Learning Communities (PLC), High-Leverage Practices (HLPs) for Inclusive Classrooms, Inclusive Principal Leadership, Reading Initiative for Student Excellence (R.I.S.E.), Response to Intervention (RTI) and the Strategic Instructional Model (SIM™), then DESE will more effectively leverage resources to improve services for SWD and will increase the reach and impact of its work with LEAs.

### **Coherent System of Supports:**

In addition to the initiatives outlined in the SSIP Theory of Action, the following DESE-OSE affiliates (known as the Arkansas Collaborative Consultants) are working to build a statewide coaching system that aligns with the SSIP:

- Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists
- Arkansas Brain Injury Support Program
- Arkansas Co-Teaching Project
- Arkansas Transition Services
- Children and Youth with Sensory Impairment
- Educational Audiology and Speech Pathology Resources for Schools
- Easterseals Outreach Program and Technology Services
- State Personnel Development Grant
- Strategic Instructional Model via UCA Mashburn Center