

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

July 20, 2017
Penn*Link

TO: School District Superintendents
School District Special Education Directors
Charter School Chief Executive Officers
Charter School Special Education Directors
Intermediate Unit Executive Directors
Intermediate Unit Special Education Directors
Approved Private School Executive Directors

FROM: Ann Hinkson-Herrmann, Director
Bureau of Special Education

SUBJECT: Significant Disproportionality Stakeholders' Forums

The December 2016 amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) require each state to develop a standard methodology to identify local educational agencies (LEAs) with significant disproportionality and ensure that children with disabilities are properly identified for services, receive necessary services in the least restrictive environment, and are not disproportionately removed from their educational placements by disciplinary removals.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) wants to develop a standard methodology with significant input from stakeholders. In order to gather stakeholder input, PDE will be conducting three stakeholder forums in August 2017 for this purpose. The sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the following Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) locations:

Tuesday, August 29	PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Wednesday, August 30	PaTTAN Harrisburg
Thursday, August 31	PaTTAN East

Persons wishing to participate must pre-register. Please access the following link to complete your registration: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SigDis>. There will be a registration confirmation statement after the registration has been submitted. The deadline for registration is August 11, 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Patty Todd by e-mail at patodd@pa.gov or by phone at 717.783.6885, or John Gombocz by e-mail at jgombocz@pa.gov or by phone at 717.772.3745.