



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
 Bureau of Indian Education  
 1849 C Street NW, MIB-3610  
 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Bureau of Indian Education (“BIE”) is responsible for ensuring that its implementation of Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”)<sup>1</sup> is consistent with federal law including requirements at 20 U.S.C. §§ 1411(h)(2)(A) and 1412(a) and 34 C.F.R. § 300.708(a). Accordingly, BIE is proposing to update its IDEA policies and procedures that apply to BIE-funded schools.

The proposed policies cover ten topic areas as summarized below:

1. Parental Consent, Involvement and Procedural Safeguards
2. Referral and Determination of Eligibility
3. Individual Education Program, IEP Development and Least Restrictive Environment
4. Dispute Resolution
5. Child Find
6. Early Intervening Services
7. Discipline
8. Transition Services
9. Exiting Special Education
10. Confidentiality

The draft text is provided as an attachment.

The BIE looks forward to speaking with you at one of the following consultation sessions. These sessions are intended for Tribal leaders, their designee or other Tribal community stakeholders.

DATE	TIME (Local Time)	LOCATION
Friday, October 13, 2023	9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. (MDT)	Virtual Zoom Registration Link: <a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSfuuhqDkoEgrSvVEjXFdk_IXGEoatr4">https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSfuuhqDkoEgrSvVEjXFdk_IXGEoatr4</a>

<sup>1</sup> 20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.*

Wednesday, October 18, 2023	5 p.m. – 7 p.m. (MDT)	National Indian Education Association Convention 401 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street, NW Room Ruidoso-Convention Center Albuquerque, NM 87102
Wednesday, October 25, 2023	9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (CDT)	Courtyard by Marriott Bloomington Mall of America 7800 Bloomington Avenue Bloomington, MN 55425

Additionally, details will also be posted on the BIE website at [www.bie.edu/landing-page/consultations-initiatives](http://www.bie.edu/landing-page/consultations-initiatives).

In addition to joining one of the consultation sessions listed above, please submit any written comments to [consultation@bia.gov](mailto:consultation@bia.gov) or mail to Juanita Mendoza, 1849 C Street, NW, MS 3609, Washington, D.C. 20240 by November 13, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding the Tribal consultations, please contact Juanita Mendoza at 202-208-3559 or [Juanita.mendoza@bie.edu](mailto:Juanita.mendoza@bie.edu).

Sincerely,

Tony L. Dearman  
Director

Cc:

Margo DeLaune, Associate Deputy Director, Division of Performance and Accountability  
Margo DeLaune, Acting Chief Academic Officer  
Sharon Pinto, Associate Deputy Bureau Director, School Operations  
Hankie Ortiz, Associate Deputy Director – Bureau Operated Schools  
Cherie Poitra, Associate Deputy Director – Tribally Controlled Schools  
Emily Arviso, Associate Deputy Director – Navajo Schools