

**Central Rivers AEA
SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETING
January 2019**

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EXEMPTIONS AND WAIVERS

Iowa Code 256.11(8) allows districts to apply for an exemption from some requirements. Exemptions are to be granted only if the request made is an essential part of a planned innovative curriculum project. The project must meet the education needs and interests of the pupils and be broadly consistent with the intent of the educational program described in Iowa Code. These exemption requests are available in CASA and are due January 1 of the prior year.

A common exemption request is for the requirement all high school students participate in physical education activities during each semester they are enrolled. Block scheduling can make it more difficult to schedule students into physical education each semester or trimester. An exemption request must be made yearly in order to schedule students for only one semester of physical education. Instructions for accessing the application are on the [website](#).

The third and fourth units of a world language are not eligible for an exemption, but the requirement may be waived on an annual basis. The waiver application is not due until August 23rd of the school year for which the waiver is requested. This is to ensure the district has the class available for enrollment, including for any new students who might move into the district over the summer. More information can be found on the [website](#).

Questions can be directed to your school improvement consultant.

WINTER STUDENT REPORTING IN IOWA (SRI)

For all public districts and non-public buildings who report via SRI

The Winter SRI production site opens on January 7th with a certification deadline of January 31st. For districts and non-public buildings housing grades 9-12, the Curriculum Accreditation Report found on the Home page in SRI should be reviewed. Items to review include (but are not limited to) local course title and SCED course title aligning, Carnegie unit on course is accurate, courses are sequenced appropriately so that Carnegie unit calculations are correct, and all courses eligible for accreditation are showing. To access a recorded webcast explaining the Curriculum Accreditation Report, click [here](#). As always, all reports need to be accurate before certifying.

STATEWIDE VOLUNTARY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN – NEW DISTRICTS

School districts not currently participating in the [Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program](#) (SWVPP) may apply to become part of the program. The application to begin a new preschool program in 2019-2020 is now available on the Department's [website](#). This non-competitive application, which is due April 5, 2019, will require districts to fund the preschool program using other funding sources in 2019-2020. In the second year of SWVPP implementation, districts will receive state aid based on the number of eligible children served in year one. Additional details are included in the [December School Leader Update](#).

For information about the SWVPP, contact [Jennifer Adkins](#), 515-954-5652 or [Mary Breyfogle](#), 515-326-1030.

DESK AUDIT

The universal desk audit for all K-12 districts/schools and AEAs closed on Dec. 15. Thanks everyone for your on time submission! Consultants are beginning the review of the desk audits. As questions or concerns arise, a comment will be entered into the Desk Audit application. An email alert will be sent to the superintendent and/or nonpublic school

administrator, in addition to the person who submitted the desk audit, requesting your review of the communication within the application. Any noncompliance items will be entered into the Corrective Action Log. To learn more about the Corrective Action Log, access the [CASA](#) webpage and scroll to the section on Corrective Action Log.

Contact your school improvement consultant with any questions on the universal desk audit or corrective actions.

UPDATES FROM LEADING, TEACHING, LEARNING SERVICES

Advanced Learner

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support workshops will be presented at Keystone AEA on January 22, 2019, and Heartland AEA on January 23, 2019. Additional days include Green Hills AEA (Fairfield) on February 11, 2019, Mississippi Bend AEA on February 13, 2019, and Northwest AEA on February 15, 2019. This day is designed around the process to understand and implement the MTSS for Advanced Learner Guide for classroom teachers, lead teachers, curriculum directors, administrators and teacher of gifted programs. Presenters include Mary Schmidt and Rosanne Malek. Please consult your AEA gifted consultant for registration.

English Language Arts/Literacy

Searching for ways to increase student comprehension? Research shows it all begins with the text! Student Achievement Partners recently published an issue brief "[Placing Text at the Center of the Standards-Aligned ELA Classroom](#)," which outlines the research-based components of strong literacy instruction.

Social Studies

Year 1 Statewide Elementary Social Studies professional development (PD) is now available as a course through AEA PD Online. See below for directions on how to access this. There is no cost for this course.

Outcomes for the training include 1.) identify and apply the structure of the new standards in the classroom 2.) connect the instructional shifts of ELA and SS to the new standards 3.) apply the inquiry process of social studies (for both teachers and students) 4.) and create and use compelling and supporting questions as part of the inquiry process with students.

To register for the training, go to <https://training.aealearningonline.org>, login, select "Catalog," search "Social Studies," and select "Register": next to "Elementary Introduction to the Social Studies Standards Year 1."

RESOURCES

[Open Enrollment](#)

[Resources for Schools to Use for Anti-bullying Professional Development](#)

[ESSA Guidance](#)

[ESSA Support Site](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 1	Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Reporting Application opens for Fiscal Year (FY) Reporting	Pat Thieben pat.thieben@iowa.gov
January 1	Last date to certify to the Department of Education (DE) reorganization or dissolution action effective July 1 (Iowa Code 275)	Carla Schimelfenig carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov
January 1	Juvenile Home Program Budget Due (AEA only)	Denise Ragias denise.ragias@iowa.gov
Second Friday in January	Determine number of students participating in whole-grade sharing for 2 nd semester. Not required to report to the Department of Education	Carla Schimelfenig carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov
January 15	Last day to submit on-line application for modified supplemental amount for the next year's At-Risk, Returning Dropout/Dropout	Rob Olsen Rob.olsen@iowa.gov

	Prevention program due for districts that want MSA (257.40, IAC 289--6.3(3)"i")	
January 27	National School Lunch Program (NSLP) <i>hawk-i</i> submission due	Deb Linderblood deb.linderblood@iowa.gov
January 31	Last day to submit Courses in a Program on the Secondary CTE Reporting Application (IAC 281.12.5)	Pat Thieben pat.thieben@iowa.gov
February 1	National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Self-monitoring review completion due	Patti Harding patti.harding@iowa.gov
February 1	Last date for boards to sign a whole grade sharing agreement (28E contract) for the next school year. (Iowa Code 282.10)	Barb Byrd barb.byrd@iowa.gov
February 1	Last date to request authority to charge administrative costs to the special education program for the subsequent fiscal year (IAC 289--6.3(3)"j")	Bill Roederer bill.roederer@iowa.gov
February 8	Exhibits and requests for hearing at the March School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) meeting due.	Kassandra Cline kassandra.cline@iowa.gov
February 10	AEA Certified Budget deadline	Denise Ragias Denise.ragias@iowa.gov
February 15	Last date to bill for first semester tuition. This includes open enrollment billing.	Carla Schimelfenig carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov
February 15	Last day to bill for first semester special education tuition.	Bill Roederer Bill.roederer@iowa.gov
March 1	Open Enrollment Grades 1-12 Deadline (Iowa Code 282.18)	Eric Heitz eric.heitz@iowa.gov
March 12	March School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) meeting	Kassandra Cline kassandra.cline@iowa.gov
March 31	Last Date to Submit Local Education Agency (LEA) Electronic Annual Audit of prior year to DE and to SAO (11.6(6))	Marcia Krieger marcia.krieger@iowa.gov
March 31	Third Quarter Claims due for Secondary Perkins Grant	Pat Thieben pat.thieben@iowa.gov

Additional information at [Deadlines](#) or [Calendar](#).

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, socioeconomic status, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688) Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E 14th St, Des Moines IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515-281-5295, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.