



National News:

- ◆ The Early Childhood Outcomes Center is a Technical Assistance & Dissemination project dedicated to helping states implement high quality outcomes measurement system for their early childhood special education programs. Their work is conducted in the three main areas of knowledge development, technical assistance & dissemination, and leadership & coordination. <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/index.cfm>
- ◆ Bullying Policies Best Practices: U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan recently disseminated a memo to state leaders highlighting key components of strong state bullying laws and policies. The memo divides existing state laws into 11 different categories, such as enforcement, training, and definitions of bullying behaviors. <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/secletter/101215.html>
- ◆ INSIGHT: Think College Briefs: Think College is a program of the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston that conducts research, training, and dissemination activities on topics related to postsecondary education for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The project's INSIGHT briefs provide in-depth policy, research, and practice information on specific topics. Recent issues focused on employment outcomes and educational coaches. <http://www.thinkcollege.net/about-us/publications>

Helpful Tip:

- ⇒ Request any policies or procedures in writing. Also if you are not in agreement with something at the IEP/ARC meeting make sure that it is documented in the conference summary. Keep in mind if it is not in writing it does not exist.
- ⇒ At anytime if you are in an IEP/ARC meeting and you do not feel comfortable or are feeling unsure request a break or to reschedule the meeting to be continued at a later date.



The **Kentucky State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC)** provides policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in Kentucky as defined by special education regulations and applicable state and federal law. The Panel advises and assists the Department of Education regarding the provision of appropriate services for children with disabilities. The authority for the Panel is mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq. as amended). The Panel conducts public forums as a part of their meetings.

The public is encouraged to comment via e-mail or by coming to a meeting. For information, contact Renee Scott at renee.scott@education.ky.gov or by calling Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) at (502) 564-4970. The next public hearing is January 20, 2011 at 6:30pm at Capital Plaza Hotel Frankfort, KY. This is a time for families and professionals to voice your concerns to the panel and they will pass them along to KDE.

Transition: Adult Health Care Transition

The time to start planning for transition to adult health care providers is your teenage years. There are many things that you can work on now before you have to start making changes. The following is a list of things that you can begin to work now.

1. Learn about your condition and any special health care needs.
2. Make a list of things you need to stay healthy.
3. Make your own medical appointments and keep track of them.
4. Write down questions that you have for your doctor.
5. Learn about health insurance coverage.
6. Explore options for adult health care – both primary and specialty care.

Work on several of the above options for a successful outcome for your transition to adult providers.

Prepared by Judy Blackwell, MSW at the Commission For Children With Special Health Care Needs in Lexington, Ky.



SPIN (Special Parent Involvement Network) is a statewide project of KY-SPIN, Inc. that "HELPS YOU HELP YOUR CHILD." SPIN PTI (Parent Training & Information Project) is funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education. **SPIN** provides training, information and support to people with disabilities, their parents and families, and information on all types of disabilities and topics for all age groups. There are no fees for **SPIN** services. Consultation, resource materials, and referral services are also available. You can call us toll-free at 800-525-7746 or at 502-937-6894, our e-mail address is spininc@kyspin.com and our website is www.kyspin.com; our main office is located at 10301-B Deering Road / Louisville, KY 40272.

Did you Know

You can follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#) go to www.kyspin.com for link





**Early Childhood: WHAT HAPPENS IN A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION?
A Step by Step Guide For Transition from First Steps to Public school
(continued from last month's newsletter)**



STEP 5: Placement/Services

After writing the IEP, the ARC will decide where the services will be provided. This is called "placement". Your child will receive services in the "Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)". This means that your child will be served as much as possible with other children his or her age who do not have disabilities. The school district will have a "continuum" of how services can be delivered. This includes inclusive (regular preschool) classes, special classes, special schools, and itinerant services provided at home or in a private child care setting or Head Start.

You may want to offer suggestions on what adaptations/accommodations could be made to support your child in this setting (i.e., ramps, therapeutic equipment, additional staff training, etc.). When considering placement, the ARC will first look at the place where your child would be if he or she did not have a disability. The school district must have your written permission to serve your child. This is required by state and federal regulations. You have the right to say yes or no, and you may change your mind at any time. Usually, the ARC meetings to write the IEP and to decide on placement are done at the same time. The school district will attempt to schedule the meeting at your convenience. Remember, your presence is very important at all ARC meetings because you are your child's best advocate. This is your opportunity to exercise your decision making rights as a member of the ARC. [Step 6 in next month's newsletter]

By: "Step by Step: A Family Guide for Transition into Preschool" © Version 10.0 KECTP
http://www.kentuckypartnership.org/Libraries/KECTP_Resources/Step-by-Step_Guide.sflb.ashx

Spotlight on Kentucky: Individual Learning Plan (ILP)

The Individual Learning Plans or ILP's for Kentucky's 6th grade through 12 grade students are changing how student prepare themselves for their future. Find information about implementing and utilizing the ILP system to best benefit students and schools at <http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Secondary+and+Virtual+Learning/ILP/> or check with your child's school. The ILP will work hand-in-hand with your child's IEP Transition Plan.

The Kentucky Family to Family Health Information Centers (F2F HIC) are located in each of the Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN) Offices. The F2F's can help you find information and services. A network of Support Parents is being developed to provide support to other parents. If you have questions or would like to help another family you can reach Sondra Gilbert in Owensboro at 877-687-7038 Ext. 2123 or in Louisville, Debbie Gilbert 800-232-1160 Ext. 279

Upcoming Events

January 20, 2011

Kentucky Special Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC) Public Hearing 6:30pm
Capital Plaza Hotel
405 Wilkinson Blvd.
Frankfort, KY
See page 1 for more details

February 4, 2011

"IEP" 12-2pm
Presented by KY-SPIN, Inc.
Regional Child Development Clinics
Bowling Green, KY
RSVP Susan Miller 270-843-8284 or rcdtrainings@bellsouth.net

February 10, 2011

"IEP" 6-8pm
Presented by KY-SPIN, Inc.
KY-SPIN, Inc.
10301-B Deering Road
Louisville, KY
RSVP Rhonda Logsdon at rhonda@kyspin.com or 800-525-7746



February 22, 2011

"Siblings" 6:30 p.m.
Presented by KY-SPIN, Inc.
Paris KY Autism Support Group
Paris-Bourbon County Library
Paris, KY
Contact: Kellie Scott (859) 987-4419
kscott@bourbonlibrary.org



(There is no charge for these workshops. Check out our website for more events. All events are subject to change.)

KY-SPIN Consultants are present at the Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN) Clinics throughout the state at various times each month. For information on clinic visits & SPIN workshops contact us toll-free at 1-800-525-7746 or by e-mail at spininc@kyspin.com.

This newsletter, published by Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network, Inc.'s Parent Training and Information Project (SPIN), is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Education. Articles contained herein are for informational purposes only and do not imply endorsement by SPIN or KY-SPIN, Inc.

