

# nectac Notes no. 26

## Part C Lead Agencies

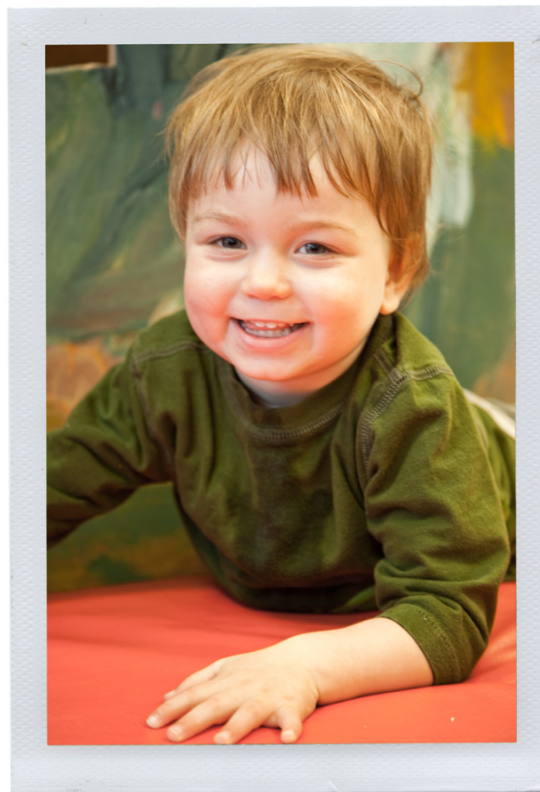
*Compiled by Joan Danaher  
revised March 2011*

### INTRODUCTION

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that the governor of each participating state/jurisdiction designate a Lead Agency for the purpose of carrying out: general administration and supervision; identification and coordination of all available resources; assignment of financial responsibility to the appropriate agencies; development of procedures to ensure that services are provided in a timely manner pending resolution of any disputes; resolution of intra- and interagency disputes; and, development of formal interagency agreements.

Lead Agencies have varied across the states and, in 23 states/jurisdictions, have changed over time. Ten of the Lead Agency changes occurred early in the Part C (previously designated Part H) program during the time that states were initially developing their early intervention systems (1987-1993). After that early period no more than one state per year had a Lead Agency change. Three states that initially designated interagency councils as Lead Agencies: Maine, Rhode Island and Texas, ultimately changed to single agency leads. Recently, (2009-2010) there have been two state Lead Agency changes. These changes took place in South Carolina and Washington, and appear to be attempts to consolidate numerous early childhood education and school readiness programs into a single agency.

A variety of sources were consulted to compile the list of Part C Lead Agencies over time. The level of detail, i.e., department to division to bureau, varied across the sources. We have noted only actual lead agency changes. Instances in which agency names changed or agency reorganization occurred that did not affect the agency designated as “lead” are not noted. We directly contacted several states and were fortunate to find state staff “who were there when” to confirm our information. NECTAC appreciates hearing from Part C Coordinators when agency changes occur.



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**TA&D**  
NETWORK

State/Jurisdiction	Lead Agency as of August 2010	Former Lead Agency, if any
Alabama	Rehabilitation Services	
Alaska	Health and Social Services	
American Samoa	Health	
Arizona	Economic Security	
Arkansas	Health and Human Services/Developmental Disabilities	
Bureau of Indian Education / Affairs		<i>(BIA/Indian Education Programs 1987-1989<sup>1</sup>)</i>
California	Developmental Services	
Colorado	Human Services/Developmental Disabilities	<i>(Education 1987-2005)</i>
Connecticut	Developmental Services	<i>(Education 1987-1995)</i>
Delaware	Health and Social Services	<i>(Public Instruction 1987-1991)</i>
District of Columbia	Education	<i>(Human Services 1987-2007)</i>
Florida	Health	<i>(Education 1987-1992)</i>
Georgia	Maternal and Child Health/ Public Health	
Guam	Education	
Hawaii	Health	
Idaho	Health and Welfare	
Illinois	Human Services	<i>(Education 1987-1997)</i>
Indiana	Family and Social Services	
Iowa	Education	
Kansas	Health and Environment	
Kentucky	Health and Family Services/Public Health	<i>(Human Resources 1987-1999)</i>
Louisiana	Health and Hospitals/Developmental Disabilities	<i>(Education 1987-2002)</i>
Maine	Education	<i>Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee for Preschool Handicapped Children (1987-1994)</i>
Maryland	Education	<i>(Education 1987-1996)</i>
Massachusetts	Public Health	
Michigan	Education	
Minnesota	Education	
Mississippi	Health	
Missouri	Education	
Montana	Public Health and Human Services	
Nebraska	Education <i>and</i> Health and Human Services (Co-Lead)	<i>(Education 1987-1991)</i>
Nevada	Health and Human Services	
New Hampshire	Health and Human Services	<i>(Education 1987-1991)</i>
New Jersey	Health and Senior Services	<i>(Education 1987-1992)</i>
New Mexico	Health	
New York	Health	
North Carolina	Health and Human Services	

State/Jurisdiction	Lead Agency as of August 2010	Former Lead Agency, if any
North Dakota	Human Services	
Northern Mariana Islands	Education	
Ohio	Health	
Oklahoma	Education	
Oregon	Education	<i>(Human Resources 1987-1989)</i>
Pennsylvania	Public Welfare	
Puerto Rico	Health	<i>(Education 1987)</i>
Palau	Not currently eligible <sup>2</sup>	<i>(Social Services/Education 1987-2000; no longer eligible)</i>
Rhode Island	Human Services	<i>(Interagency Coordinating Council 1987-1991; Health 1992-2004)</i>
South Carolina	First Steps to School Readiness	<i>(Health 1987-2009)</i>
South Dakota	Education	
Tennessee	Education	
Texas	Assistive and Rehabilitative Services	<i>(Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention 1987-2003)</i>
Utah	Health	
Vermont	Education and Human Services (Co-Lead)	<i>(Education 1987-1991)</i>
Virgin Islands	Health	<i>(Health 1987-1992; Education with Memo of Understanding (MOU) to Health 1993-1998)</i>
Virginia	Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	
Washington	Early Learning (July 2010)	<i>(Social and Health Services 1987-2009)</i>
West Virginia	Health and Human Resources	
Wisconsin	Health Services	
Wyoming	Health	

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1. The Department of the Interior (DOI) receives allocation from the U.S. Department of Education, which then is distributed by DOI to tribes.
  2. Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau are not currently eligible for this federal program.

## Resources Consulted for Compilation of Part C Lead Agencies by Year of Publication

*Mapping the future for children with special needs: P.L. 99-457.* (1988). Smith, B. Iowa City: University of Iowa.

*10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual reports to Congress on the implementation of the Education of the Handicapped/Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (1988, 1989, 1990, 1993). U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Special Education Programs. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

*An introduction to PL 99-457 and the national policy agenda for serving young children with special needs and their families.* (1989). Trohanis, P.L. in J. J. Gallagher, P. L. Trohanis and R. M. Clifford (Eds.), *Policy implementation and PL 99-457: Planning for young children with special needs* (p. 1-17). Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes.

*Directories of selected early childhood programs. 1988-1998.* Decker, M. (Ed.). (1988-1992), Guadagno, N. (Ed.). (1993-1996). Ramirez, A. (Ed.). (1997-1998). Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center, National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System.

*Job satisfaction of Part H coordinators.* (1991). Berman, C. Dissertation, Walden University.

*A national reform agenda for services to young children with special needs and their families.* (1993, 1994). (Retitled as) *Progress in providing services to young children with special needs and their families.* (1995, 1996, 2001, 2002). Trohanis, P. (Ed.). Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Center, National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center.

*Part C updates* (3<sup>rd</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> eds.). (1998, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010). Danaher, J., et al. (Eds.) Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Institute, National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center.

*Early intervention directory.* National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System. (1999, 2000). As published in the January 2000 and January 2001 issues of *Exceptional Parent*.

*NECTAC Contact List.* (2002-2008). Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Institute, National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center.

Photo: Alex Lazara

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