



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION


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### MEMORANDUM

TO: LEA Special Education Directors and 619 Coordinators

FROM: Mary Ann Mieczkowski, Director, Exceptional Children Resources   
Cindy L. Husson Brown, M.Ed., State 619 Coordinator *CLB*

RE: Use of Required Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Assessment Tools During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting closure of the public schools, including the early childhood special education programs, children will be accessing their programs in different ways, such as in a virtual learning environment. Given this, early childhood special education staff will not be able to utilize the various designated COS assessment tools outlined in the Early Childhood Outcomes Manual.

Therefore, during the period that the public school buildings remain closed and children are not in attendance use of the listed COS assessment tools will not be required for exit ratings. 619 personnel may use various sources of information that they are able to obtain to support the rating on the exit COS. This may include items such as progress updates, parent report, rating scales and other sources of information regarding the child's current level of functioning which will enable the team to determine a rating for the child who is or will be exiting the Part B 619 program at the end of the 2020 school year.

Regarding data collection for exit ratings, please check the **Records Review** option in eSchool to document that these are alternate data sources for 2020. In conjunction with the eSchool documentation, you must check **Other Approved Tool** on the paper Child Outcomes Summary form and then write in "***Records review due to Covid-19 Pandemic***" to notate this change in assessment tool during the pandemic.

Thank you for all you do for the students with disabilities in Delaware.