The Center for IDEA Fiscal Reporting (CIFR) provides technical assistance to state educational agencies to help them collect and report special education fiscal data to meet several requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): maintenance of state financial support (MFS), allocation of IDEA Part B subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs), LEA maintenance of effort (MOE), and coordinated early intervening services (CEIS). Learn more at cifr_info@wested.org.

CIFR by the Numbers
Technical Assistance to States

November 2014 – October 2019

Since its inception five years ago, CIFR has provided TA to nearly all 60 IDEA Part B programs — including intensive TA to 14 states — to help them meet IDEA fiscal requirements. The numbers below highlight CIFR’s work to date.

54 States and Entities Supported
Entities include the Bureau of Indian Education, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

33 Resources Produced
CIFR has created online interactive guides, quick reference guides, practice guides, and adaptable tools to help state fiscal specialists learn about and implement IDEA reporting requirements. (Four of these were co-developed with the IDEA Data Center and one was co-developed with the National Center for Systemic Improvement.)

Of 27 CIFR products reviewed by expert panels, all were deemed to be of high quality, relevance, and usefulness. And in an annual survey, at least 90 percent of state staff agree that CIFR products:

• Helped them better understand aspects of IDEA fiscal reporting requirements.
• Helped improve their state’s capacity to collect and report on IDEA fiscal data.

678 TA Requests Addressed
MFS
65 requests made by 37 states and entities

CEIS
125 requests made by 40 states and entities

ALLOCATIONS
173 requests made by 46 states and entities

LEA MOE
315 requests made by 47 states and entities

9,363 Downloads
Most popular CIFR resources by download:

LEA MOE Calculator
1,562

MFS Quick Reference Guide
935

LEA MOE Quick Reference Guide
885
Communities of Practice Convened
- 8 regional communities of practice have met 213 times on a monthly or quarterly basis since 2015, supporting 54 states and entities.

Topical Communities
- 2 topical communities have focused on the high-demand issues of LEA MOE procedures and educational service agencies.

IDEA Fiscal Forums Held
CIFR's IDEA Fiscal Forums provide in-person opportunities for state directors of special education and IDEA fiscal specialists to build knowledge and capacity by connecting and sharing with peers on critical IDEA issues. In post-event surveys, 98 percent of state attendees agreed that they will be able to use what they learned at the events in their professional roles.

IFF 2016
- DEN
- 47 States Attended
- 114 State Participants Attended

IFF 2018
- ATL
- 48 States Attended
- 116 State Participants Attended

The Center for IDEA Fiscal Reporting (CIFR) is a partnership among WestEd, American Institutes for Research (AIR), Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) at Utah State University, and Westat. The Improve Group is CIFR’s external evaluator. The contents of this flyer were developed under U.S. Department of Education grant #H373F140001. They may not represent U.S. Department of Education policy, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officers: Jennifer Finch and Charles Kniseley.