

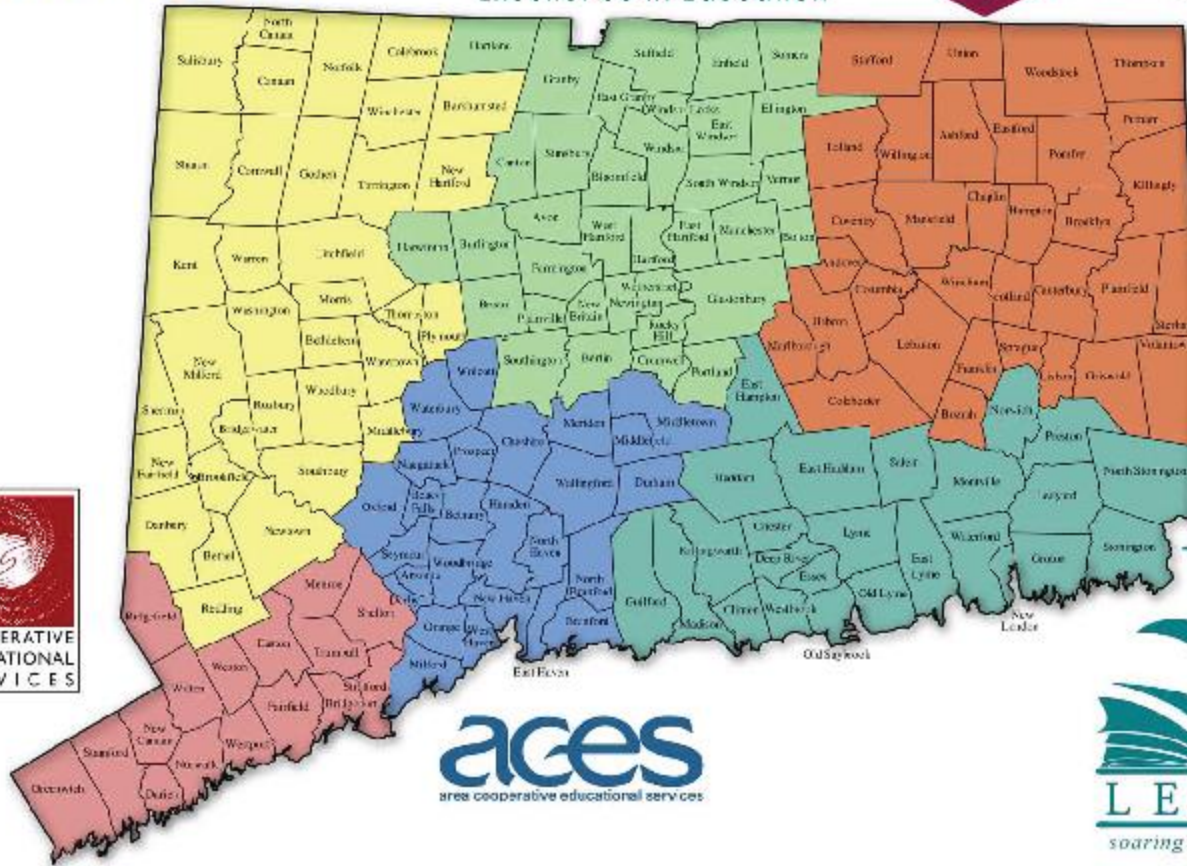


RESC Special Education Programs and Services

M.O.R.E. Commission

Special Education Select Working
Group – June 12, 2014





What are Regional Education Service Centers?

- Not-for-profit, fee-for-service, public education agencies
- 40 year history serving Connecticut public school districts
- Provide cost-effective, cooperative solutions for public schools
- Enable school districts to expand services beyond what they can cost effectively accomplish alone

Regional Education Service Centers

- Operate independently, serving their regional member school districts
- Collaborate as an alliance in the procurement of resources and the delivery of services
- Locally governed by member Boards of Education



Supporting Connecticut School Districts

- Curriculum Development & Assessment
- Early Childhood Services
- Magnet Schools/Choice Programs
- Professional Development
- Technology Support & Training
- Transportation
- Special Education and Related Services

Sources of Funding

- Federal – 6%
- Private – 3%
- State Grants – 43%
- Local – 48%

Priorities

- Regional partnerships to improve quality and fiscal efficiency
- Regional cooperation to close the achievement gap
- Regional infrastructure to support regional collaboration
- Early childhood initiatives to support young children and families

Special Education and Related Services

- Home, school and center-based
- Highly specialized, individualized, cost-effective options to assist districts to provide services to student with special needs
- Related services such as assistive technology, audiology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, certified behavior analysts

Special Education and Related Services

- Committed to educating students in the least restrictive environment
- Provide services in local school districts whenever possible to keep children in local public school
- Assist districts with setting up in-district programs
- Provide training and technical assistance for staff in local school districts
- Provide evaluation and consultation for students in local school districts

Special Education Programs

- Students may only enter a RESC special education program through the Planning and Placement Team process
- District and family must be in agreement with the placement
- Families can not privately enroll their child in a RESC special education program
- Goal is always to return the student to the district if at all possible

What makes us unique?

- Programs are developed at district request, district driven
- Programs are developed for students with the most unique needs, low incidence
- Programs are developed when districts have such small numbers of students with similar needs they can not develop the expertise to serve the students
- We are non-profit and are established to serve the unmet needs in districts

What makes us unique?

- We rarely dismiss a student or don't accept a student
 - will work with the district to build an appropriate program
- Open conversation about what needs to be done so that the student returns to district
- We are governed by our councils, which are made up of local board of education members
- Our budgets are created to provide the most cost effective services and are approved by our councils
- Tuition to programs are based on cost of program split amongst the number of students/districts

We serve students with the following characteristics:

- Autism
- Medically fragile
- Emotional Disturbance, challenging behaviors, mental health needs
- Intellectual disability
- Developmental delay
- Deaf / hard of hearing
- Visually impaired

We serve students in the following locations:

- Local schools and classrooms
- RESC programs in RESC run facilities
- Student/children's homes
- Head Start programs
- Community locations – 18-21 year old students with disabilities

Number of SWD Served: 6,169

Type of Program/Disability Served	Number of Students
Developmental Delay – Birth to Three	1491
Learning Disability, Emotional Disturbance, Other Health Impaired	826
IEP and 504 students in RESC Magnet Schools	1528

Type of Program/Disability Served	Number of Students
Autism, Developmental Delay, Multiple Disabilities, Intellectual Disability	1278
Hearing Impairment	1046
Assistive Technology Services	233

Additional Services

- Juvenile Detention Center – 896
- Children in Head Start Centers – 42
- District Based Collaborative Programs - 29

Embedded Consultants: 199

- Speech Path: 34
- Speech Path Asst.: 2
- OT: 22
- COTA: 12
- PT: 20
- PT Asst: 1
- Tutors: 12
- Teacher of Vis. Imp.: 1
- Assistive Tech: 11
- Audiologists: 9
- Audiology Tech: 6
- Psych/Beh Special.: 17
- Board Certified Beh. Analysts: 37
- Transition Spec.: 6
- Total: 199

We provide the following services to districts:

Professional development :

- Professional development to general and special education staff
- Conferences with national experts/trainers
- Embedded professional development
- Training for parents

We provide the following services to districts:

Consultation and technical assistance:

- Individual students (i.e. evaluation, behavior consultation, health issues)
- Groups of students
- Family need for supports
- Program support
- Program evaluation/audits
- Assistive technology

Summary

- RESCs are responsive to local needs and interdistrict opportunities
- RESCs are dedicated to supporting local school districts to improve teaching and learning
- RESCs facilitate partnerships with many different key stakeholders
- RESCs are dedicated to providing high-quality and affordable solutions that address regional needs

For Additional Information:

- www.rescalliance.org
- www.aces.org
- www.ces.k12.ct.us
- www.crec.org
- www.eastconn.org
- www.educationconnection.org
- www.learn.k12.ct.us

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