

# MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

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# WHAT IS MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE)?

- **Part of the fiduciary accountability of the IDEA-B.**
- **States that “Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must continue to maintain the same effort of state and or local funding for the education of children with disabilities as they did during the previous fiscal year.” Popham, Lawton, Katsiyannis, and Ryan (2017)**
- **Follows a basic formula:**
  - **$Y2 - Y1 > Y1$**

# WHY THE CONFUSION?

- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA B) Part B 2004 outlined the requirement of MoE (C.F.R. § 300.203).**
- **Since that time there have been questions in calculation that have resulted in new guidance.**
- **This has resulted in a “Final Letter” from OSEP in 2015.**
  - General Rule
  - Eligibility Standard
  - Compliance Standard
  - Exceptions and Adjustment/Flexibility
  - Consequences of LEA MOE Failure

# AT A STATE LEVEL

- **The SEB has created a procedure for the calculation of MoE.**
- **The plan has not been implemented with fidelity to the Local LEAs.**
- **There is no way for Local LEAs to plan for MoE when they are not given the numbers in a timely manner.**

# SOLUTIONS

- **The IDEA B needs to be re-authorized with clear guidance about the calculation and reduction of MoE.**
- **The SEB needs to communicate the MoE calculations to the Local LEA in a timely manner.**
- **The ramifications of not addressing MoE impact the ability of both the State and Local budgetary process.**

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Popham, M., Lawton, K.I., Katsiyannis, A., & Ryan, J. (2017).  
Maintenance of Effort requirements: An overview for  
administrators. *Journal of Special Education Leadership*,  
30(2), 98-104.**