



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to inform you that on December 23, 2011, the U.S. Department of Education released to the public the *30th Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 2008*. Section 664(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that the U.S. Department of Education report annually on the progress made toward the provision of a free appropriate public education to all children with disabilities and the provision of early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities. The *30th Annual Report to Congress* follows the *29th Annual Report to Congress* in sequence and continues to focus on IDEA results and accountability. However, the design of the *30th Annual Report* differs from that of the *29th Annual Report* in that it no longer contains state-reported data tables for IDEA, Part B and Part C, or data notes from states explaining changes in their data from the previous year because this information is readily available at <http://www.ideadata.org>. This change has reduced the size of the annual report from three volumes to one.

The *30th Annual Report to Congress* contains six major sections that address the five annual report requirements contained in section 664(d) of IDEA. Sections I and II of the report contain national data and state-level data, respectively, pertinent to Parts C and B of IDEA. The remaining four sections of the report include: a summary and analysis of the U.S. Department of Education's findings and determinations regarding the extent to which states are meeting the requirements of IDEA, Parts B and C; a summary of special education research conducted under Part E of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002; a summary of national special education studies and evaluations conducted under section 664 of IDEA; and a summary of the extent and progress of the assessment of national activities, which focus on determining the effectiveness of IDEA and improving its implementation.

If you are interested in accessing the *30th Annual Report*, please visit the U.S. Department of Education's website at: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/osep/index.html>. I trust you will find the report a valuable resource.

Sincerely,

Melody Musgrove, Ed.D.  
Director  
Office of Special Education Programs