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ABSTRACT

This report summarizes data relating to standards for accreditation of personnel preparation programs in special education and related services. Section 1 examines standards issued by 30 responding states and identifies trends in the standards. It presents a matrix of standards by state, indicating whether the state has core curriculum requirements, specialist levels, required practicum, categorical or noncategorical certification, age/grade certification, identified competencies, administrative certification, related services standards, and scandards for accreditation. Section 2 provides information concerning the standards implemented by six regional accrediting bodies. A matrix indicates whether each accrediting body has requirements in the areas of core curriculum, specialist levels, practicum, admission, follow-up, exit, faculty, governance, and resources. Section 3 summarizes accreditation information from seven national professional organizations in special education and related services, and offers a matrix indicating whether each organization has standards in the area of general requirements, specialist levels, practicum, admission, follow-up, exit, faculty, governance, and resources. Appendixes list addresses for state education departments, regional institutional accrediting bodies, and special education and related services organizations. (JDD)



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Directors of Special Education

THE NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE



The Council for Exceptional Children

FOR PROFESSIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

INFORMATION BULLETIN #40

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NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES PERSONNEL

A Summary

1990

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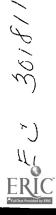


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NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES PERSONNEL

A Summary

INTRODUCTION

This **Summary** and overview, compiled by the National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education, covers accreditation standards used by national professional organizations, regional accrediting bodies, and State Education Agencies (SEAs). The Clearinghouse has compiled three volumes containing this information:

- o Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education And Related Services Issued By The States
- O Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs In Special Education And Related Services Issued By Regional Institutional Accrediting Bodies
- O Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs
 Of Nationally Recognized Special Education And Related Services
 Organizations

The three **Digests** taken together represent a comprehensive body of information relevant to institutions and organizations seeking to make policy or individuals pursuing certification as professionals in special education or related services.

The information helps to identify the types of standards required (1) in various special education fields or (2) in certain regions of the country. The information might also be helpful to a State administrator seeking to update existing standards or in comparing standards across a variety of states.

The Summary contains three Sections, which deal with each of the three **Digests**. The Appendices include suggested contacts for further information requests.



SECTION ONE

Summary Of Information Available In The

Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs In Special Education And Related Services Issued By The States

The Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs In Special Education And Related Services Issued By The States contains information about the accreditation standards that State Education Agencies have established concerning the approval of programs in colleges and universities for the preparation of professionals in special education and related services. The Digest report information on 30 States which had standards as of September 1989. While the variety of the types and detail of certification standards differs greatly from State to State, the information can be grouped and displayed along certain key characteristics.

Matrix A: Summary Matrix of the Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs In Special Education And Related Services Issued By The States, provided at the end of this Section, describes the types of information available for each State, as well as descriptive information about each State's accreditation standards.

In addition, some discussion of the information is provided here to clarify issues and identify some trends.

Accreditation/Certification. As used in this analysis, the term accreditation refers to the granting, or formal recognition, of a teacher training institution's program as acceptable according to State Education Agency (SEA) standards.

Certification refers to the standards used by an SEA to formally recognize or "certify" that an individual meets State standards to be a teacher or related services professional practicing in that State. In most cases, candidates for State certification are granted certification by completing a course of study at an institution of higher education accredited by the State. Therefore, certification is used here to mean standards regarding individuals seeking formal acceptance to perform teaching or other professional duties in a State.



Accreditation, on the other hand, refers to institutions of higher education receiving approval as programs providing instruction to individuals who might seek certification from the State after completion of a program.

Categorical/Non-Categorical. There are three terms used by states to identify areas in which accreditations are granted: (1) categorical, reflecting the "traditional" categories of handicapping condition as defined in the Education of the Handicapped Act; (2) non-categorical, which are accreditations that emphasize more generic characteristics of the student population such as severity of handicap or age; and (3) a hybrid of both with some generic accreditations such as "sensory impaired" handicap, and some categorical, such as "hearing impaired". Of the 30 States, 15 report the use of traditional categorical accreditations, 12 States use a non-categorical approach, and four are non- categorical with categorical accreditations in certain areas.

Early Childhood Accreditation. It is surprising, given the existence of early childhood programming in many States for several years, that only ϵ ight States specifically establish accreditation for teachers in early childhood.

Core Requirements. All of the states prescribe a core curriculum for the award of any special education teaching credential.

Specialist Levels. All but one (North Carolina) of the states awards certification for course work beyond the core requirements, e.g., "Learning Disabilities Specialist."

Competencies Identified. More than half of the states identify the skills and knowledge which the candidates for certification will be taught.

Administrative Certification. Most of the states do not require administrative certification for special education. The states which do include certification standards for supervisory/administrative professionals include Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Oregon.

Related Services. Only four of the states report they have established certification of related services personnel as part of the special education standards for certification.

Standards for Accreditation. Fourteen of the 30 states report they have established standards for accreditation in addition to those standards established by regional or national accrediting bodies.



For further information concerning State accreditation and certification standards or procedures, individuals are encouraged to contact the State directly. State addresses are available in Appendix A.



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Matrix A:

Summary Matrix of the Digest of Standards Relating to Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education and Related Services Issued by the States

	Core Require-		Prac- Specialist ticum Re- Levels culred	· Categori-	Non- Categori-	n- gori-		Age/Grade		Com- petencles identified	trative s Certifica-	Related Services	ards for Accredita- tion	for dita-
				į	5	:	0-5	3-5	K-8	9-12				
STATE														
Arlando	>	200		Ves	2	§ >			×		o Z	9	2	×es
California	- ×	Yes Yes ²			2	Yes*			×	×			_S	운
Colorado	×			es Se		Yes*	×	×	×				Yes	S
Washington D.C.			>	× ss	8	ž			×		Yes	V	Yes	Yes
Georgia			Yes Y	SS	Yes	ž				-		Yes	<u>ي</u>	운
Illinois	×	Yes Ye	>	λ sə,	89	ž					No oN	- oN	٧ ع	S
lowa	×		>	es Yes	88 ₋	Š	×	×	×	×	Yes Y	Yes	Yes	Υes
Kanaaa	Š	× × ×	> > > >	ă	8	2		×	×				Yes	Yes
Kentucky	- ×		- >-	8 8	2	. % . %		•	: ×	×	Yes	Yes	£	2
Maine	· ×		ج	68	S	Yes							₽	Yes
Massachusetts	۶		>	8	٩	Yes		×	×				Ŷ	Yes
Flinnesota	۶		>	, es	જી	%	×	×	×	×		Yes	₽	S
Missouri	۶		>	_ sa,	٩	Yes			×				ş	2
Montana	×	Yes	_	% }	જ્ઞ	ž			×				ę	Υœ
Nebraska	×		>	es –	٩ ٧	2			×				ş	운
New Hampshire	×	Yes	Yes		٩	٧					°N ON		S.	£
New Jarsey	×		Yes		<u>ې</u>	Yes					- %	[©]	⁸	Yes
New York	>		V	>	Voc	Ž			>	×	N.	N.	S.	N _O



Ob# .LLua .olal

	Core Re- quire-	Prac- Core Re- Specialist ticum Re- quire- Levels quired	Prac- ticum Re- quired	<u> </u>	Non-		Age/Grade	ade		Com- petencles Identified	Adminis- trative Certifica-	Related Services	Stand- ards for Accredita-
	ments			in C	in S	o 2	3-5	ж. 8-	9-12				
STATE													
North Carolina	χ	2	Υes	Ŷ	Š					Š	8 N	ž	Yes
North Dakota	χ ₆	Yes	Yes	ž	Yes					Š	%	%	Yes
Ohio	Yes	× ×	Yes	Yes	2		×	×	×	Yes	% N	Yes	£
Oklahoma	Yes	X68	Yes	Yes	°		×	×	×	Yes	ž	%	2
Oregon	Yes	Yes	Υes	2	Yes					Yes	Yes	S	₹
Pennsylvania	88	Yes	Yes	Yes	S N			×	×	ž	°Z	ž	Yes
Rhode Island	Υœ	Yes	χ	2	, seγ					Yes	ž	S	ž
South Carolina	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	Yes*					Yes	Š	2	Yes
Texas	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Yes	Yes	Yes	Š			×	×	Š	2	Š	S
Virginia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					S.	°N	2	Yes
West Virginia	8 8	X88	Yes	Yes	°N			×	×	Yes	Š	2	Yes
Wisconsin	Xes	Yes	Yes	Yes	¢N	×	×	×	×	2	S.	∾	S N

* = States marked with a single * under the non-categorical column use a non-categorical certification approach except for sensory impairments.

** = South Carolina has adopted the NCATE Standards and uses them with minor revisions.

SECTION TWO

Summary Of Information Available In The

Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel
Preparation Programs In Special Education And
Related Services Issued By Regional Institutional Accrediting
Bodies

The Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs In Special Education And Related Services Issued By Regional Institutional Accrediting Bodies provides information concerning the standards used by accrediting organizations to accredit degree granting institutions of higher education. These six regional accrediting bodies have developed in the tradition of voluntary cooperation of educational institutions in the effort to assure integrity of educational programs. The specific organizations are:

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
- New England Association of Colleges and Schools
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Western Association of Colleges and Schools

In general, the accrediting bodies use the same types of standards but exhibit considerable differences in detail. All have some standards concerning faculty and faculty governance. Half specifically require a core curriculum for specialist programs. Only two of the six require practicum experiences as part of the required training program.

Core Requirements. All six of the accrediting bodies require a Core curriculum -- a certain type or etc.



Specialist Levels. Three of the Regional Accrediting Bodies awards certification for coursework or competencies beyond the core requirements (e.g., A Learning Disabilities Specialist would be more specifically trained than an individual with basic teacher certification).

Practicum Required. Two of the Accrediting Bodies requires field based experience in actual teaching settings before certification can be awarded.

Admission. Five have specific admission standards and procedures which degree granting institutions must meet.

Follow-Up. Five require specific procedures or information which degree granting institution must have in order to receive accreditation from the accrediting body.

Exit. Three of the accrediting bodies requires the degree granting institution to specify criteria for completion of degrees by its graduates.

Faculty. All specify standards for faculty performance or educational level as requirements for accreditation.

Governance. Five specify standards for faculty governance as a requirement for accreditation.

Resources. All have standards for the amount of use of resources as a requirement for accreditation.

Matrix B provides specific summary information on relevant characteristics of the accrediting bodies' standards.

For further information concerning accreditation information or procedures, individuals are encouraged to contact the accrediting bodies directly. Addresses are available in Appendix B.



Accreditation Standards Summary

F-1

Matrix B:

Digest of Standards Relating to Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education and Related Services Issued by Regional Institutional Accrediting Bodies

Resources		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Governance		Yes	Yes	S _N	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Faculty		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Exit		Š	°Z	o N	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Follow-Up	Livery Control of the	Yes	Yes	N _o	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Admission		X K	Yes	N _o	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Practicum Required		°N	N _o	N _o	% S	Yes	Yes	(Doctoral Only)
Specialist Levels		S S	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	ě	
General Requirements		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	ACCHEDIT- ING BODY	Middle States	New England	North Central	Northwest	Southern	Western	

•—•

SECTION THREE

Summary Of Information Available In The

Digest Of Standards Relating To
Personnel Preparation Programs Of Nationally
Recognized Special Education And Related Services Organizations

The Digest Of Standards Relating To Personnel Preparation Programs Of Nationally Recognized Special Education And Related Services Organizations describes standards established by seven national professional organizations. These standards are used by States and degree granting institutions to establish programs and policies to ensure well qualified individuals. As such, the professional standards found in this Digest have considerable influence and serve an important function. The organizations appearing in the Digest are:

- The American Occupational Therapy Association
- The American Physical Therapy Association
- The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- The Council For Exceptional Children
- The Council for Education of the Deaf
- The Council on Social Work Education
- The National Association of School Psychologists

The standards found in this **Digest** are the most consistent in terms of each organization having information in each of the categories of the Matrix. For example, at least three of the seven organizations have a standard in each category. In two of the categories ("practicum required," and "specialist") each of the organizations have standards.

Specialist Levels. All seven organizations require course work or competencies beyond the core requirements. (e.g., A Learning Disabilities Specialist would be more specifically trained than an individual with basic teacher certification).



Practicum. All require field based experience in actual teaching or other service delivery settings.

Admission. All seven professional organizations specify admission standards and procedures which must be met.

Follow Up. Four of the organizations specify procedures or information the institution must use to keep information on professionals.

Exit. Three of the organizations require specific criteria for completion of degrees by its graduates.

Faculty. All specify standards for faculty performance or educational level as a requirement for accreditation.

Governance. Six of the organizations specify standards for faculty governance.

Resources. Six of the organizations specify standards for the amount or use of resources as a requirement for accreditation.

For further information concerning professional organization standards or procedures, individuals are encouraged to contact the organizations directly. Addresses are available in Appendix C.



Matrix C:

Recognized Special Education and Related Services Organizations Personnel Preparation Programs of Nationally Digest of Standards Relating to

	General Requirements	Specialist Levels	Practicum Required	Admission	Follow-Up	Exit	Faculty	Governance	Resources
ORGANIZA- TION									
Į.	>	>	\ \ \ \	У В	Ö	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ADIA	S 2	5 d	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ASHA	S Z	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
CFC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	o _N	Š	Yes	N _o	No
CFD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
CSWE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	o Z	g	Yes	Yes	Yes
NASP	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Š	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Appendix A

State Education Department Addresses



APPENDIX A

STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ADDRESSES

ARKANSAS - Special Education Section

Arkansas Department of Education Education Building - Room 105C

#4 Capitol Mall

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

CALIFORNIA - Specialized Programs Branch

California Department of Education

Capitol Mall P.O. Box 721

Sacramento, California 95814

COLORADO - Special Education Services Unit

Colorado Department of Education

201 E. Colfax

Denver, Colorado 80203

DISTRICT OF Division of Special Education and

COLUMBIA - Pupil Personnel Services

D.C. Public Schools

Webster Administration Building

10th and H Streets, N.W. Washington, DC 20001

GEORGIA - Georgia Department of Education

Teacher Education 1858 Twin Towers East

Capitol Square

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

ILLINOIS - Illinois State Board of Education

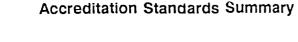
Mail Code E-216 100 North First Street

Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

IOWA - Division of Special Education

Iowa Department of Education Grimes State Office Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146







KANSAS -

Certification, Teacher Education,

and Accreditation

Kansas Department of Education

120 East 10th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612

KENTUCKY-

Kentucky Department of Education

Capitol Plaza Tower

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

MAINE -

Division of Special Education

Maine Department of Education and

Cultural Services

Station #23

Augusta, Maine 04333

MASSACHUSETTS-

Division of Special Education

Massachusetts Department of Education

1385 Hancock Street

Third Floor

Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-5183

MINNESOTA -

Special Education Section
Department of Education
812 Capitol Square Building

550 Cedar Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2233

MISSOURI -

Special Education

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

P.O. Box 480

Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

MONTANA-

Special Education

Office of Public Instruction State Capitol - Room 106 Helena, Montana 59620

NEBRASKA -

Nebraska Department of Education

301 Centennial Mall South

Box 94987

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987



NEW HAMPSHIRE-

Special Education Bureau

New Hampshire Department of Education

101 Pleasunt Street

Concord, New Hampshire 03301-3860

NEW JERSEY -

New Jersey Department of Education

P.O. Box CN 500 225 W. State Street

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0001

NEW YORK -

New York State Department of Education Office of Assistant Commissioner for Education of Children w/Handicapping

Conditions

Education Building Annex - Room 1073

Albany, New York 12234-0001

NORTH CAROLINA -

Division of Exceptional Children
North Carolina State Department of

Public Instruction

Education Building - Room 442

116 W. Edenton

Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1712

NORTH DAKOTA -

Special Education

Department of Public Instruction

State Capitol

Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0440

OHIO -

Ohio Department of Education Division of Special Education

933 High Street

Worthington, Ohio 43085-4017

OKLAHOMA -

State Department of Education Oliver Hodge Memorial Building

2500 N. Lincoln

Room 411

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599

OREGON-

Special Education and Student

Services Division

Oregon Department of Education

700 Pringle Parkway, S.E. Salem, Oregon 97310-0290



PENNSYLVANIA -

Bureau of Special Education

Pennsylvania Department of Education

333 Market Street

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126-0333

RHODE ISLAND -

Rhode Island Department of Education Roger Williams Building - Room 209

22 Hayes Street

Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5025

SOUTH CAROLINA -

Office of Programs for the Handicapped

State Department of Education 100 Executive Center Drive A-24 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

TEXAS -

Special Education Programs Texas Education Agency 1701 N. Congress Avenue

Room 5-120

Austin, Texas 78701-2486

VIRGINIA -

Virginia Department of Education

P.O. Box 6Q

Richmond, Virginia 23216-02060

WEST VIRGINIA -

Special Education

West Virginia Department of Education

Building #6 - Room B304

Capitol Complex

Charleston, West Virginia 25305

WISCONSIN-

Division of Handicapped Children

and Pupil Services

Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster P.O. Box 7841

Madison, Wisconsin 53707



Appendix B

Addresses of Regional Institutional Accrediting Bodies



APPENDIX B

ADDRESSES OF REGIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITING BODIES

MIDDLE STATES -

Commission on Higher Education

Middle States Association of Colleges

and Schools 3624 Market Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

NEW ENGLAND -

Commission on Institutions of

Higher Education

New England Association of Schools

and Colleges
The Sanborn House
15 High Street

Winchester, Massachusetts 01890

NORTH CENTRAL -

Commission on Institutions of

Higher Education

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools 159 North Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60601

NORTHWEST-

Commission on Colleges

Northwest Association of Schools

and Colleges

3700-B University Way, N.E. Seattle, Washington 98105

SOUTHERN-

Commission on Colleges

Southern Association of Colleges

and Schools 1866 Southern Lane

Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

· WESTERN -

Accrediting Commission for Senior ·

Colleges and Universities Western Association of Schools

and Colleges P.O. Box 9990 Mills College

Oakland, California 94613-0990

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Appendix C

Addresses of Special Education and Related Services Organizations



APPENDIX C

ADDRESSES OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY - The American Occupational

Therapy Association, Inc.

1383 Piccard Drive

P.O. Box 1725

Rockville, Maryland 20850-4375

PHYSICAL THERAPY - American Physical Therapy Association

Commission on Accreditation in Education

1111 North Fairfax Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

SPEECH-LANGUAGE-

HEARING -

American Speech-Language-

Hearing Association

Educational Standards Board

10801 Rockville Pike

Rockville, Maryland 20852

EXCEPTIONAL

CHILDREN -

The Council For Exceptional Children

1920 Association Drive Reston, Virginia 22091

DEAF -

Council on Education of the Deaf

Gallaudet University 800 Florida Avenue, N.E. Washington, DC 20002

SOCIAL WORK -

Council on Social Work Education

Commission on Accreditation

1744 R Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20009

Council on Social Work Education

Commission on Accreditation

111 Eighth Avenue

New York, New York 10011

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS -

National Association of

School Psychologists 808 17th Street, N.W.

Suite 200

Washington, DC 20005

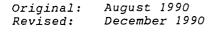




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FOR PROFESSIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION



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Directors of Special Education
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Washington, DC 20006
202/296-1800

"National, Regional, and State Accreditation and Certification Standards for Special Education and Related Services Personnel - A Summary" summarizes the contents of three additional volumes of accreditation-related information:

- Digest of Standards Relating to Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education and Related Services Issued by the States,
- 2. Digest of Standards Relating to Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education and Related Services Issued by Regional Institutional Accrediting Bodies, and
- Digest of Standards Relating to Personnel Preparation Programs of Nationally Recognized Special Education and Related Services Organizations.

The summary document is divided into three sections, with each section consecutively corresponding to each of the three additional volumes listed above. The first section of the summary document contains information on the accreditation standards of 30 States which had standards as of September 1989, the second addresses standards used by six regional accrediting bodies, and the third outlines standards established by seven national professional organizations. The format of each section of the summary document is similar, beginning with discussion intended to clarify issues and vocabulary, and to identify trends. In each of the three sections, such discussion is then followed by content information presented in the form of a matrix.

After reviewing the summary document, should you wish to purchase the three additional volumes of accreditation-related materials, a limited supply is available through the Clearinghouse. The volumes may be purchased as a three volume set at cost, for \$53.00. Checks may be made payable to NASDSE. Feel free to contact the Clearinghouse with any questions. Contact information is as follows:

National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education c/o NASDSE 2021 K Street, N.W., Suite 315 Washington, D.C. 20006 Telephone: (202) 296-1800 FAX: (202) 659-8454

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is also in the process of putting Volumes 1-3 on computer disk. For further information, contact:

John Davis
The Council for Exceptional Children
1920 Association Drive
Reston, Virginia 22091
Telephone: (703) 620-3660
FAX: (703) 264-9494

