



April 2, 2026

Dr. Michelle Daley
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC 20202

RE: ED-2026-OESE-0364

Submitted via: regulations.gov

Dear Dr. Daley,

The Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities Education Task Force (CCD) is writing to provide comments on the Department of Education (Department) proposed priorities, requirements, and definitions under the Comprehensive Centers (CC) Program. Specifically, CCD supports Proposed Priority 3 which includes the proposal to fund a National Center (Center) focused on Improving Literacy for Students with Disabilities. To that end, we offer the following comments for your consideration:

CCD appreciates the Department including a focus area with the Comprehensive Centers priorities that includes a National Center on Improving Literacy for Students with Disabilities. As we commented in June 2025¹, students with disabilities continue to lag far behind their peers in a) achieving state-set reading standards in grades 3-8/high school; and b) achieving reading proficiency in grades 4 and 8 as measured by the National Assessment on Educational Progress (NAEP). Establishing this Center will help focus essential K-12 technical assistance (TA) and support in states and districts as they work to improve the literacy skill development for students, including those with disabilities.

We continue to encourage the Department to help states and districts understand how general education and special educators can collaborate so that students may obtain key literacy skills. We also hope the Center will help states and districts understand the flexible and allowable uses of general and special education funding so that schools may provide evidence-based early literacy/literacy instruction, intervention, and educational supports and ensure students can access the accommodations, auxiliary aids, and assistive technology they may need to be successful learners.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on behalf of the 10.25 million students with disabilities identified under the IDEA and served by Section 504.

Sincerely,

CCD Education Task Force Co-Chairs

¹ See: CCD Letter to Rogers, June 2025, at: <https://c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Comments-on-Secretary-Priorities-2025.pdf>

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The CCD Education Task Force leads, advocates for, and monitors federal legislation and regulations that address the educational needs of the 9.5 million children and youth with disabilities and their families, including policy efforts affecting the funding and implementation of federal laws such as IDEA, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). We advocate for high expectations for children with disabilities under these and other laws.

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