

Special Education Day Committee (SPEDCO)
PO Box 600221
Newtonville, MA 02460

Email: rconnolly@doe.mass.edu
info@specialeducationday.com

SPEDEX: SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPERT PILOT PROJECT
Resolving special education disputes through a child-centered approach.

The Special Education Day Committee (SPEDCO), the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and the SpedEx Planning Committee are pleased to announce the launch of the pilot SpedEx Project. This Project grew out of annual Special Education Day celebrations, attended by educators, DESE officials, parents, and other interested parties.

Brief overview of SpedEx:

Special education delivery is often hampered by litigious disputes between families, experts, and school districts. SpedEx focuses on removing the anxiety, anger, and expense of litigation through a research-based, dispute resolution approach that targets what the child needs. Key features:

- Use of independent, neutral educational experts (SpedEx Experts) jointly selected by families and schools who voluntarily choose the SpedEx option
- Use of student information and research by SpedEx Experts to assess and/or recommend individualized FAPE-driven placements
- Appropriate placement of students by agreement within 30 days
- Post-placement observation and review by SpedEx Expert
- Decisions made through joint school-family approach, with knowledge, willingness, and cooperation

We now seek participants for this innovative SpedEx Project by:

- Potential SpedEx Experts, to be pre-qualified as vendors
- An Administrator for the BSEA's SpedEx Project

| The BSEA posted the RFRs on its website (www.comm-pass.com) in June 2008.

If you would like more information about SpedEx, feel free to contact Richard Connolly, Director, BSEA: rconnolly@doe.mass.edu, or SPEDCO at info@specialeducationday.com. This innovative pilot SpedEx Project is funded and supported by the Massachusetts DESE.

Finding the information about SpedEx at www.comm-pass.com.

- **Once on the site, scroll down to “search for solicitations.”**
- **On the page that pops up, plug “SpedEx” or “BSEA” into the key word search box.**
- **Notice about two solicitations will appear. Enter that notice, and you will find the SpedEx Expert and the SpedEx Administrator.**
- **To view either, open the “view” prompt for that entry.**
- **Once there, go to “Specifications,” where you will find four documents of information.**

- **Should you also wish to view the other solicitation, go back to the Home prompt at www.comm.-pass.com and follow the prompts as set out above.**

For further information about the website and the application process, please contact the BSEA Director, Richard Connolly at rconnolly@doe.mass.edu or 781-338-6402.