

IEP PLANNER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9 SEPTEMBER 1, 2005

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Newsletter is to keep you informed of some upcoming changes to Special Education and IEP Planner in par-

ticular. More detailed information regarding these changes will be distributed prior to implementation. However, should you have

any questions regarding any topic included in this Newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

IDEA/NJAC CHANGES

A letter regarding recent IDEA 2004 changes was distributed on August 8, 2005 to all EdNet clients. This letter included detailed instructions for incorporating IDEA changes into IEP Planner. Hopefully by now you have incorporated these

changes. However, if this task has not been completed, and you need assistance, please contact our office immediately. Making the minor changes listed in our letter will certainly assist you in maintaining IDEA 2004 compliance

during the interim period prior to the release of IEP Planner Version 9. IEP Planner v9 will, of course, include these immediate changes along with any other changes which are brought about as a result of the redrafting of NJAC 6A:14.

IEP PLANNER VERSION 9

We at EdNet are in the process of formulating IEP Planner v9. While IEP Planner v9 will include required NJAC changes, we are also planning to incorporate many of the client requested changes we have received throughout the past year. In addition, we are hoping to make changes which we feel will enhance IEP Planner's already user-friendly and comprehensive interface. Some of the pro-

posed changes are:

1. The ability to transfer IEP Planner data to an Excel spreadsheet, allowing for more flexibility when working with lists.
2. New more comprehensive Evaluation Plan data entry screens and printed document which will allow for more flexibility in use throughout the entire evaluation process.
3. Easier identification of

current student data through document begin and end dates instead of the current method of assigning document types (In-Force, Draft, Archived). Documents will be automatically highlighted on the main menu so that the user can easily identify current, future and past documents.

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FILEMAKER PRO VERSION 7 (NEW AND GREATLY IMPROVED!)

Some of the changes we are proposing for IEP Planner v9 are now possible due to the recent upgrade of FileMaker Pro (v7). Whenever FileMaker Pro is upgraded, it gives us at EdNet the opportunity to make additional enhancements to IEP Planner – enhancements which were not possible with previous FileMaker Pro versions.

One change which users will immediately notice when logging onto IEP Planner v9 is that only one file will open along the bottom of the FileMaker Pro window. This will allow for much faster log on time. Another change will be the elimination of many of the data entry limitations currently imposed on IEP Planner v8

by current versions of FileMaker Pro.

Of course, as with previous FileMaker Pro upgrades, all EdNet clients will need to upgrade their FileMaker Pro Software with FileMaker Pro v7 prior to receiving IEP Planner v9.

NJ SMART

We're sure that by now you have all heard of NJ Smart (the State's proposed education data warehouse.) Please be aware that the State has been keeping vendors informed of NJ SMART's progress. Unfortunately the

State has experienced some setbacks and we are currently awaiting word as to the current status of this project. Our hope is that NJ SMART requirements will be available in time to be incorporated into IEP Planner v9.

However, if this is not the case, we will, of course, make an NJ SMART update available to you on our website.

IEP PLANNER FEATURED IN SPECIAL EDUCATION JOURNAL

An Article entitled "Form versus Function: Using Technology To Develop Individualized Education Programs for Students with Disabilities" is included in the Journal of Special Education Technology, Spring 2005 Issue. This informative article discusses the use of IEP software applications from the perspectives of form and function. Two applications are featured throughout the article as

being "exemplars of comprehensive IEP technology applications..." - IEP Planner being one of them!

As you can imagine this is quite an honor for us at EdNet.



If you have any questions regarding any article in this Newsletter or questions regarding IEP Planner, please contact us at:

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