Montana CSPD

Special Education law required states to have Comprehensive Systems of Personnel Development (CSPD) from 1975 to 2004. When the Individuals with Disabilities Act was reauthorized in 2004 states were no longer required to include CSPD in their state laws. However, the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) felt confident in Montana CSPD’s ability to provide professional development and included CSPD as Montana Administrative Rule (ARM) number 10.16.3135 in the Montana State IDEA Plan. Montana’s CSPD works to ensure that all education personnel are adequately prepared and receive continuing education.

Serving Region III Counties:

- Big Horn
- Carbon
- Fergus
- Golden Valley
- Judith Basin
- Musselshell
- Petroleum
- Stillwater
- Sweet Grass
- Stillwater
- Wheatland
- Yellowstone

Region III CSPD is housed at:
Montana State University Billings
Montana Center for Inclusive Education
1500 University Drive
Billings, MT 59101

Funding for Region III CSPD is provided by the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

This brochure is available in alternative formats upon request.
About CSPD
Montana CSPD is a unified personnel development system that ensures quality outcomes for All children and youth.

To this end, the mission of CSPD is to value and promote quality education programs and services that:

- are proactive and flexible in meeting the needs of all children and youth
- are unified and integrated through a partnership of families, schools, agencies, and communities
- promote interdisciplinary professional development
- ensure success for all by providing a safe and healthy environment that builds a sense of belonging and value for self and others
- evaluate and disseminate best practices (evidence based/research based) and achievements through ongoing high-quality professional development
- encourage sensitivity to individual differences by recognizing cultural and ethnic diversity
- support recruitment and retention of high quality educational personnel
- are designed to meet individual needs delivered through personalized, accessible and practical formats to ensure continuous growth.
- are based on the use of current, relevant data to help establish professional development activities

Stakeholders
The Region III CSPD Council is composed of diverse stakeholders including:

- Public Education
  K-12 Educators
  Pre-school Educators
  School Administrators
  Paraeducators
  Related Service Providers
- Community Based Organizations
- Early Intervention and Part C
- Education Service Providers
- Families and Parents
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Native American Education
- Professional Advocacy Organizations
- State Agencies

Recognition
Every year, each CSPD region offers the following awards to persons from their region who have demonstrated outstanding service:

- Paraeducator of the Year
- Paraeducator/Teacher Team of the Year
- Leadership Award

Each region also recognizes the achievement of a student with a disability with the Yes I Can! Award.

All award winners are recognized at the annual Montana Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) Conference.

Contact Information
For more information about Region III CSPD, or if you have suggestions for future professional development please contact:

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Council Members
For a listing of Region III CSPD Council Members, please check the members page on our web site.

Web Sites
www.msubillings.edu/smart/cspd
www.opi.mt.gov