

Monthly Instructional Guide Checklist

November

Texas SPED Support's Monthly Instructional Guides help special education teachers in self-contained classrooms navigate the school year. Each month contains relevant content and resources. For more in-depth information on each checklist item, please visit the [November Monthly Instructional Guide](#).

This month's focus is on encouraging student communication. The content aligns with Quality Indicator V: Social Communication on the [Rubric of Effective Practices for Students with Complex Access Needs](#) and the [Administrator Companion Document to the Rubric of Effective Practices for Students with Complex Access Needs](#).

- ☐ Identify communication differences.
- ☐ Recognize response modes. These may include:
 - Verbal
 - Physical
 - Visual
- ☐ Implement strategies to build communication.
 - Teach vocabulary.
 - Honor and respond to communication attempts.
 - Provide wait time.
 - Exhibit interest in conversations.
 - Model.
 - Provide opportunities to communicate.

Final Thought: Recognize non-traditional response modes.

Data checkpoint: If your campus has a fall break, make sure to take data after the break to monitor for student regression. This is needed for determining eligibility for Extended School Year (ESY) services.

For more resources in supporting students with complex access needs, go to spedsupport.tea.texas.gov.