

I Suite Update

A Newsletter of GG Consulting, LLC--developer of Special Education Manager*
Volume VII, Issue 1, Spring 2005

Why the name change?

In 1992, **GG Consulting, LLC** released its first special education management system in Texas. This system, **Special Education Manager**, is now used by approximately 50% of the districts in the state. **Special Education Manager** is focused on IDEA and TEA compliance and special education records management. Over the past 5 years numerous functions and modules have been added to address the needs of both general and special education. In Fall 2007, a new module specifically designed to address the full range of school interventions will be introduced. **Special Education Manager, GG Consulting, LLC's** flagship product will become one component of **the I (Intervention) Suite**. Read more about the **I Suite** (previously referred to as the **GG Consulting, LLC** Application Suite) in this newsletter.

Fall 2007 Updates

Some of the benefits of using GG Consulting, LLC products are that we: aggressively address changes in federal and state rules and regulations, implement user requests for enhancements, and have never charged for user for user requested changes. Additionally, users throughout the state benefit from the expertise of each other. Version 7.0 reflects almost 100 changes that include such enhancements as: a new form to address intervention-based LD disability determination; modifications to forms to more effectively address transition and autism based on upcoming commissioner rules, adding numerous pull-down lists to facilitate user entries, functions to align speech and TEKS

objectives, expanded the functionality of the automatic Summary of Performance builder, and several new reports. No user request has been denied.

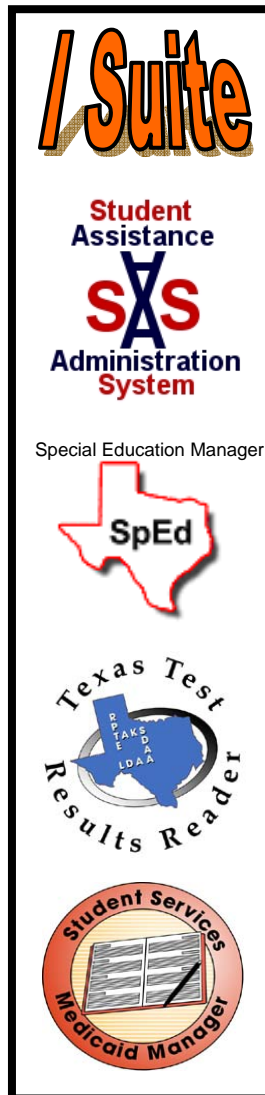
2007 Kick-off Conferences

In August 2007, **GG Consulting, LLC** will be holding 2007-08 Kick-off leadership conferences in Austin, Houston, and Dallas. These conferences will introduce those who are responsible for **I Suite** implementation to the range of changes included in the Fall 2007 release of **Special Education Manager** and other **I Suite** modules, provide users and opportunity to ask questions, and to provide strategies for successful product 2007-08 implementation. Each participant will receive updated training guides for all **I Suite** products and presentation handouts.

If you are unable to attend a workshop or would like to download the Powerpoint presentation and/or user guidelines, they will be available for download in either PDF or Word format on **GG Consulting, LLC's** User Web site beginning August 13, 2007. (Note: If your district customizes training materials with local policies and procedures, the Word format is recommended.)

As of August 1, 2007 approximately 370 leadership staff are already registered for the conferences.

First release of Student Assistance Administration System (SA)2 is Fall 2007. Read on for more information.



Student Assistance Administration System (SA)² Expands

(SA)² is about managing data for: early intervention/intervention teams, response to intervention (RTI), Section 504, LPAC, gifted and talented, personal graduation plans, Student Success Initiative, and any other intervention that may need to be tracked. It is about assisting schools in organizing their intervention processes. It is about developing a single plan for student success.

One Student...One System is the foundation for (SA)². (SA)² as part of **I Suite** will enable districts to seamlessly manage student interventions at all levels/tiers. Information from intervention team meetings flows to Section 504, special education, LPAC, and other forms with a click of the mouse. RTI data integrates into student FIEs, information from state test data, TAKS or TELPAS, is automatically integrated into forms and reports. To facilitate student identification, students are automatically triaged based on state test and other data.

Staff confused about research-based strategies? (SA)² has a bank of 200+ strategies which include: description of each strategy, sample implementation strategies, methods of evaluation, and a bibliography of supporting resources to assist teachers and intervention teams to identify possible strategies.

Having problems keeping track of intervention meetings? A challenge for schools is to track all the intervention-related meetings that are occurring on a campus or throughout a district. A special scheduling function has been added to assist with scheduling and monitoring meetings.

Trouble keeping track of At-Risk students? The system includes a built-in at-risk tracker to monitor students who fall under one of the 13 at-risk categories.

Who are the first? (SA)² will be implemented in 7 beta sites this Fall. Implementation will take place after Version 7.0 is implemented in all sites. Sites range from 3,000 to 65,000 students.

Have questions, suggestion, or would like GG Consulting, LLC to come on site and meet with district leadership staff about (SA)², contact us at (888) 442-6751.

(SM)² Divided:

Student Services and Medicaid Manager (SM)² was originally designed with student services tracking in mind. The system can be used to schedule and track any and all services to students and provides significant benefits to those who are interested in tracking student services whether the student is Medicaid eligible or not. Those who use it for this purpose can easily answer questions related to whether students have received services and what occurred in the services, complete the PBMAS Related Services and Speech report and monitor staff more effectively. Staff also find it easier to schedule services and maintain documentation.

The Medicaid management component of the system has been enhanced over the past year to address 'informed consent', billable and non-billable services, and changing rates. Additionally, the system was the first in the state to be certificated by TMHP to file and receive electronic responses using the new National Provider Identification (NPI) number.

With the significant changes in Medicaid over the past few years, a number of districts are weighing the benefits of filing for claims. Districts can now purchase the student services component without the Medicaid component. Additionally, districts who decide to use the Medicaid Manager and who do not wish to file their own claims can now contract with GG Consulting, LLC to process their claims.