OSEP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DEFINITIONS

Universal, General TA
TA and information provided to independent users through their own initiative resulting in minimal interaction with project staff and including one-time, invited or offered conference presentations by project staff. This category of TA also includes information or products, such as newsletters, guidebooks, or research syntheses, downloaded from the project’s Web site by independent users. Brief communications by project staff with recipients, either by telephone or email, are also considered universal, general TA.

Targeted, Specialized TA
TA service based on needs common to multiple recipients and not extensively individualized. A relationship is established between the TA recipient and one or more project staff. This category of TA includes one-time, labor-intensive events, such as facilitating strategic planning or hosting regional or national conferences. It can also include episodic, less labor-intensive events that extend over a period of time, such as facilitating a series of conference calls on single or multiple topics that are designed around the needs of the recipients. Facilitating communities of practice can also be considered targeted, specialized TA.

Intensive, Sustained TA
TA services often provided on-site and requiring a stable, ongoing relationship between the project staff and the TA recipient. “TA services” are defined as a negotiated series of activities designed to reach a valued outcome. This category of TA should result in changes to policy, program, practice, or operations that support increased recipient capacity and improved outcomes at one or more systems levels.

Reference
Department of Education. (2018). Applications for new awards; technical assistance and dissemination to improve services and results for children with disabilities—state technical assistance projects to improve services and results for children who are deaf-blind and national technical assistance and dissemination center for children who are deaf-blind. Federal Register, 83, 42266-42275.