MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Education Agency (LEA), Exceptional Children Directors and Coordinators

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas, Director

DATE: March 30, 2021

BUILDING AN ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TEAM 2 YEAR COHORT APPLICATION

NCDPI, in collaboration with the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD) has opened the application process for LEA/Charter schools looking to create an Assistive Technology Team. This initiative is a 2-year Cohort process, requiring a team be created from no less than 3 and no more than 6 members. The members must include an SLP and motor professional such as an occupational and/or physical therapist. Other possible members could include a general and/or special educator, teacher of the deaf and/or hard of hearing, teacher of the blind or visually impaired, a professional with knowledge of assistive technology or an administrator. During the first year of the process, teams will meet for two, two-day professional development sessions. The sessions are held September/October and February/March time frames. The CIDD will conduct site visits to meet with the team and offer suggestions. The second year requires two, one day professional development sessions and another site visit. There is webinar access and an Institute. Due to COVID, we are planning on hosting all sessions virtually.

As part of the application process, we ask a person who can make this LEA/Charter school decision and appropriate funds for the Cohort complete the questions from the link below.

https://forms.gle/4gRpbrQMFjdY4M4r7

The deadline to complete this application is Friday April 30, 2021. Applications will be reviewed, and acceptance/rejection letters will be sent by the end of May. Slots are limited to 10 teams.

Questions regarding this process may be directed to Matthew Martinez, matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.gov.

SHT/SV/DM/MM/CP