

EC Division Weekly Update
October 20, 2021

Updates to the EC Division Padlet

Items of Interest

IMPORTANT: IDEA Grant Deadline

All IDEA Initial Grant applications still pending **must** have the corrections submitted and the initial grant approved by **November 30, 2021**. Fiscal Monitors will communicate with the EC Directors the specific areas needing attention to complete the IDEA grant submissions. Upon receiving approval of the initial grant application, PSUs will have fourteen days to submit the 2020-2021 MOE.

Newly opened charter schools will receive training for IDEA grant application in December and notification of IDEA grant deadline during the training.

NEW! APPLICATION FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Exceptional Children Division's application to apply for participation in the NC State Improvement Project (NC SIP) grant is now available. This State Personnel Development grant is from the US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs and focuses on literacy, including adolescent literacy and math. **(ATTACHED)**

Federal Reporting

- **2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 11**

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 11 - Child Find in ECATS. The Indicator 11 count captures the percent of students for whom a referral was received, and placement determined within 90 days and is based on data from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The Indicator 11 Count opened October 1, 2021 and is due by close of business October 29, 2021. The training video, ECATS Webinar – Indicator 11 Reporting, along with additional reference handouts are posted in each district's ECATS instance on the main page under Resources > Federal Reporting. Please submit any questions or student level data corrections directly to ZenDesk to ensure that problems with data are corrected efficiently.

- **2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 12**

Indicator 12 captures data on students who received Part C services and were referred to Part B during the July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 fiscal year. All students must have an IEP developed within 90 days of the referral and receive services by their 3rd birthday. Indicator 12 will be submitted on spreadsheets by all PSUs and can be accessed by clicking this link: [Indicator 12 Spreadsheet](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/resources) or by going to the ECATS site under Resources (<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/resources>). The spreadsheet has a tab with helpful clarifications to assist PSUs on entering their data and can be submitted at any time prior to the due date of October 29, 2021. Charter Schools do not need to submit an Indicator 12 spreadsheet this year. Please email all Indicator 12 spreadsheets to ecindicators@dpi.nc.gov.

- **Important Federal Reporting Reminder: Submission Timeliness**

If your district does not certify the data required for Indicators by the due date, your data may be certified by state staff. The integrity of the data is always at risk when the Department of Public Instruction must finalize the data for your district.

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- **Information from Monday Message – 10/18/2021**

[Monday Message 10.18.21.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

- **Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Training & Technical Assistance**

If you were unable to attend the MOE training or if you need a refresher, the recording, along with the PowerPoint, are available on the Exceptional Children website [here](#) and on the NC CCIP Home Page. The MOE Expenditure Table opened for PSUs with approved IDEA grant on October 1, 2021 and is due on October 31, 2021.

- **Special Grants**

Grant applications opened on September 7, 2021. Special grants, with the status of Chief Administrator Approved, are reviewed monthly after the 15th. Notification of review is made through NC CCIP. For your review, the Special Grants Training recording, along with the PowerPoint are available on the EC Website [here](#) under the Special Grants section.

- **PRC 167 ESSERF**

Please ensure that budget and grant use of funds align to ensure timely approvals.

- **IDEA/ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)**

The American Rescue Plan funds have been allotted under the following Program Report Codes. The budgets will be submitted the same way as the IDEA budgets. A new application is not required.

- **PRC 185 IDEA/American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) Basic – 611**

The funds will align with the IDEA Section 611 Use of Funds. If the funds are budgeted for items not currently in the Section 611 Use of Funds, the Use of Funds must be revised.

- **PRC 186 IDEA/American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) Preschool – 619**

The funds will align with the IDEA Section 619 Use of Funds. If the funds are budgeted for items not currently in the Section 619 Use of Funds, the Use of Funds must be revised.

- **PRC 187 IDEA/American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) CEIS**

- For PSUs with mandatory CEIS, the funds will align with the CEIS Use of Funds. If the funds are budgeted for items not currently in the CEIS Use of Funds, the Use of Funds must be revised.
- For PSUs with an approved IDEA grant and needing a grant revision, it should be submitted at the same time as your MOE Expenditures. Contact your fiscal monitor for additional information regarding the IDEA grant status and the submission of the budgets.
- Allotments can be seen on the allotment page of the IDEA Grant in CCIP
- Budgets are submitted through each PSU's budgeting system and will be pulled into CCIP
- Directors/Coordinators can view the budgets once submitted by clicking on the budget link on the IDEA Grant Sections page
 - The funds can be utilized on any IDEA allowable expense. The Chart of Accounts now contains the allowable budget codes for PRC 185, 186 & 187. It can be found here:

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/financial-and-business-services/school-district-finance-operations/chart-accounts>

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- If the budget aligns with the current Section 611/619 and or CEIS Use of Funds, the IDEA Grant does not need to be revised.
- If the budget includes line items not currently in the Section 611/619 or CEIS Use of Funds, the IDEA Grant must be revised to include the new line items. Designate in the Use of Funds that the revision items are for PRC 185/186/187.
 - Example: Current Use of Funds does not include funds for professional development. Add to the Use of Funds:
 - Revision for PRC 185: Professional Development Workshop Expenses
- After the IDEA Grant and all related budgets are approved, SPD notifies NCDPI School Business. SPD does not allot the funds or know when the funds will be allotted.

Additional Information from School Business Newsletter – 10/15/2021

[School Business Newsletter 10.15.21](#)

Family Engagement – Technical Assistance Opportunity

The Exceptional Children Division, in an effort to support the Local Education Agency Self-Assessment (LEA-SA) process, would like to offer a technical assistance opportunity focusing on Core Element Six - Communication and Collaboration, specifically the strategy; the *“LEA facilitates meaningful parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.”*

This opportunity will include:

- A copy of the book *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships* (Henderson, A. T., Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R. and Davies, D., 2007) to explore why partnerships are so vital to the success of students.
- A semi-self-paced course in CANVAS with asynchronous activities
- Synchronous networking sessions over the course of a year (all sessions begin at 10:00am)
 - o November 10, 2021 – Kick-Off
 - o January 26, 2022
 - o March 30, 2022
- 3.0 CEUs upon completion of the course activities and evaluation.

Please register by using this link, https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/ife/form/SV_aYuqc5FnZRBkVuu. The link will remain open until November 1, 2021, or until we have 30 participants.

If you have additional questions, please contact Alexis Utz, Parent Liaison, at Alexis.Utz@dpi.nc.gov.

Blindness Awareness Month – Information and Fun Facts

Often students with visual impairments require Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) such as alternatives to traditional printed materials. Customizing the reading experience for students with visual impairments should be based on their unique needs. To access more information on alternatives to print that are not just braille, please read ["Personalizing the Reading Experience"](#).

Bookshare Basics Video

The Exceptional Children Division has recently been asked for more information about Bookshare. Crystal Patrick, Consultant for Visual Impairment and State NIMAC Coordinator, has recorded a brief, 3-minute video, on the [Basics of Bookshare](#). For additional information, please contact Crystal, crystal.patrick@dpi.nc.gov.

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Southwest Orientation & Mobility Conference: Zooming into the Future 2.1

The 2021 Southwest Orientation & Mobility Conference (SWOMA) is virtual again this year and will be held November 4-6, 2021. This is an excellent opportunity to use your PRC 118 funds to support professional learning for your O&M Specialist. [Registration](#) ends October 28, 2021.

Transitions for Students with Visual Impairments – A Professional Learning Opportunity **Transitions for Students with Visual Impairment** is a three-part professional learning series that will examine post-secondary transitions for students with disabilities with a specific focus for students with visual impairments. Participants will engage in asynchronous activities in addition to a live webinar hosted by the NC DPI Consultants for Visual Impairment. Attendance and participation are required for all three portions in order to obtain .6 CEU credits. **The registration deadline is Friday, November 5, 2021.**

The first asynchronous portion will be completing course [#16783 EC Process and ECATS Course 4b: Postsecondary Transition](#) through NCEES, followed by a live webinar scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 30th, from 2:30pm-3:30pm via Webex. The third portion will be an asynchronous activity demonstrating implementation.

Questions about this professional learning can be directed to Crystal Patrick, crystal.patrick@dpi.nc.gov.

Teacher Recruitment Action Plan: BEST NC

@BESTNCorg has convened stakeholders from across NC to develop the NC STRIDE Teacher Recruitment Action Plan, which details strategies to help ensure that our state cultivates a talented, diverse teacher pipeline for NC students. Learn more at www.BESTNC.org/NCSTRIDE #NCEd

Overview of School-based Practice

NCDPI Consultants for PT, OT, SLP and School Psychology will host a Professional Learning Session covering a wide variety of topics on November 12, 2021. It will include 2 recorded sessions and an optional live virtual session on November 12, 2021 from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Please see attached flyer for additional information. **(ATTACHED)**

PK EC Items of Interest

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION
