



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas, Director *SH7*

DATE: April 20, 2022

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST GRANT PROGRAM (PRC 204)

School Psychology Grant Program

Session Law 2021-189 established a grant opportunity intended to recruit school psychologists in hard-to-staff areas. School psychologists play an integral role in improving the safety, mental health, and well-being of students and are a vital part of Public-School Units (PSUs). Given the timeline described below, PSUs may apply for this grant if they intend to hire a school psychologist or provide professional learning and mentorship between now and April 1, 2024 (i.e., a candidate does not have to be confirmed or hired to apply for the grant).

Grant Details

The grant application can be accessed and completed within the North Carolina Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) grant system.

- Application Window: 4/20/2022 - 5/31/2022
- Expected Allotment Date: 7/31/2022*
- Funds are available through September 30, 2024.

*Please note the expected allotment date of 7/31/22. **Any funds not encumbered by April 1, 2024, will be reverted for redistribution.**

Acceptable Use:

These grant funds can be used for the following recruitment activities:

- Individual bonuses
- Professional membership fees
- Professional learning (e.g., registration and per diem)
- Mentor support stipend

Special Criteria:

- NCDPI will prioritize the award of funds to public school units that do not currently employ a full-time school psychologist
- No individual bonus shall be greater than \$5,000
- No individual professional learning cost shall be greater than \$5,000
- No school psychologist shall receive more than \$5,000 annually for provision of mentorship
- As a condition of accepting a signing bonus, a school psychologist shall agree through an assurance agreement to remain employed in the public-school unit for at least one school year

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

- Grant funds shall be used to supplement and not supplant State or non-State funds already provided for the activities described above
- Funds shall not be used for contracted services
- Application must be completed and submitted by the PSU upper-level administrator who has school psychologist supervision responsibility (Director of Exceptional Children, Director of Student Services, Assistant Superintendent, etc.)

Please feel free to address any questions to Matt Hoskins (matt.hoskins@dpi.nc.gov).