



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

www.dpi.nc.gov

TO: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Preschool Coordinators

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas, Senior Director *SH7*
Sherri Vernelson, Section Chief, Sensory Support and Assistive Technology *SV*

DATE: July 6, 2022

THE NORTH CAROLINA EARLY LEARNING SENSORY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2022-2023 ASSURANCES AND REQUEST FOR SERVICES DOCUMENTS

The North Carolina Early Learning Sensory Support Program (ELSSP) within the Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section has updated the Request for Services and Assurance documents for the 2022-2023 school year. Although the ELSSP primarily serves children and families under Part C of IDEA, when capacity is available and in locations that do not have qualified staff and are in primarily rural areas, the ELSSP may serve children with hearing or vision impairments ages three to five under IDEA Part B. An additional goal of the ELSSP Assurances is to support the Local Education Agency (LEA) to build capacity to serve students beyond age five so that contracting services, which are often costly, may not be necessary.

The [Request for Services forms](#) are required if an LEA desires to make a request for the ELSSP to provide specially designed instruction for a student with a vision or hearing loss. The forms are attached for your convenience and may also be found on the Office of Exceptional Children website at the hyperlink above. The request will be reviewed and within 14 days a response will be provided to the LEA.

For questions or additional information, please contact the appropriate program administrator:

ELSSP – Hearing Impaired Ruth.anne.everett@dpi.nc.gov

ELSSP – Visually Impaired Bethany.mayo@dpi.nc.gov

Cc: Dr. Derrick Jordan
Bethany Mayo
Ruth Anne Everett

Attachments

OFFICE OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER