



August 17, 2022

News!

IMPORTANT: Still Accepting Call for Proposals for 71st Conference on Exceptional Children

The Office of Exceptional Children is still accepting proposals for Conference breakout sessions through August 29th. Please share this link with central office staff and teachers. We know there are great things happening in schools across the state and we want to include these in our Conference sessions. [Submission Link](#)

Regional Director / Coordinator Meeting Dates

Regional EC Director/Coordinator Meetings will be held on these weeks:

Sept. 13-16, 2022

Jan. 10-13, 2023

May 9-12, 2023

Please see [this list for specific dates for each location](#). Additional information concerning locations, times, and agendas will be shared by your regional coordinator.

2022-2023 EC Applications and Data Due Dates Calendar

The [2022-2023 Due Dates for Data, Reports, Applications, & Grants](#) document has been updated to support planning for the upcoming year. It is a live document that will force a download of a personal copy. It will be updated throughout the year, so please refer to the [Office of Exceptional Children website](#) periodically for updates.

Art Needed for Deaf Awareness Month

The Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing - Asheville office is having an open house for Deaf Awareness Month on September 8 from 3:00-7:00pm. More information can be found by reviewing the [flier](#) for this event. The office is seeking to collect artwork from students who are deaf and hard of hearing to post during the open house event. If you are interested in learning more about submitting artwork, please contact Laura Herman at laura.herman@dhhs.nc.gov.

Poster Presentations for the 71st Conference on Exceptional Children

You are invited to [submit a proposal for a poster session](#) to present your research or practice in special education and related services at the 71st Conference on Exceptional Children, November 3-4, 2022. If selected, you will be asked to present during two designated 90-minute sessions at the EC Conference on Thursday, November 3rd. This is not intended for vendors or non-profit organizations to share their information but must be focused on educational research, programs, practices, methodologies, interventions and/or pedagogies. More information about the conference may be found on the [NC DPI EC Website](#).

PRC 118 Autism Funding Request for Funding

The Office of Exceptional Children allocates PRC 118 Autism (AU) funding to assist Public School Units (PSUs) to increase capacity in the implementation of an effective autism program to improve outcomes for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).



August 17, 2022

There are two levels of support and funding available, General Support or Team Support. PSUs can choose which level based on their priorities regarding autism programming and in alignment with their LEA Self-Assessment.

The **General Support** level will allow PSUs to access ASD specific professional learning (PL) for the purpose of increasing educators' knowledge and use of evidence-based programming in the provision of services to students with ASD.

The **Team Support** level is available for PSUs to:

- Access PL for the purpose of increasing educators' implementation of effective services to students with ASD.
- Develop or maintain an Autism Support Team (AST) with the skills needed to provide support within the PSU.
- Provide PL and ongoing support (including but not limited to consultation, coaching, PLCs, etc.) within the PSU.

Funding amounts allocated will be dispersed in a lump sum based on PSU Average Daily Membership (ADM). A memo outlining acceptable use of funding will be disseminated when allocations are disbursed.

- Review these linked documents that provide details regarding [General Support](#) and [Team Support](#).
- Prepare for your Request for Funding by reviewing and planning responses for these Questions:
 - [General Support Questions](#)
 - [Team Support Questions](#)
- Complete your [Request for Funding Form](#) by **September 19, 2022**.

The NCDPI Autism Team will be holding informational webinars for PSUs to attend if they have questions regarding submission of their Request for Funding. These webinars will be in the format of a question-and-answer session and are scheduled for:

- August 30, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- August 31, 2022 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

You can access either session at <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/nancy.childress>

Questions regarding PRC 118 Autism Funding may be directed to asdteam@dpi.nc.gov.

Intervention Support Consultant

The Office of Exceptional Children and Supporting Teaching and Related Services are pleased to announce the hiring of Elizabeth "Liz" Behr as the Intervention Support Consultant.

Liz joins us from Pender County Schools where she served in various roles including EC Compliance Specialist, Assistant Principal, and EC Teacher. While in Pender County Schools, Liz served as the local NCSIP Coordinator.



August 17, 2022

During that time, she became a Keys to Literacy trainer, a Foundations of Math instructor, and a Dyscalculia Delegate.

Outside of work, Liz enjoys entertaining family & friends, spending time by the ocean, and trying new recipes to share. Liz brings a variety of experience to her new role and is excited to support teachers and PSUs throughout the state. Liz can be reached at liz.behr@dpi.nc.gov.

New Resource for OT and PT

We are pleased to share a new resource: [Leveraging Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy within MTSS for Student and Staff Success](#), located in the [NC MTSS Implementation Guide 2.0 LiveBinder](#). We hope these resources will encourage occupational therapy (OT) and physical therapy (PT) practitioners to expand their involvement in MTSS and demonstrate their unique value to support school improvement. Practitioners, administrators, and school teams can employ these resources to advocate and promote the success of all students and staff. Our thanks to the individuals who shared their expertise and provided thoughtful input to improve these resources (see acknowledgements). Contact Bridgette LeCompte, bridgette.lecompte@dpi.nc.gov, and/or Laurie Ray, laurie.ray@dpi.nc.gov with any questions/comments.

IABS Grant Information

The purpose of the IABS grant application is to support work that builds district/charter school capacity (e.g., the systems, activities, and resources) for implementing evidence-based practices for social, emotional and behavior support (SEB) within the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) framework. The goals described in this application should directly align with the district's/charter school's implementation/improvement plan. Funds may only be used to support professional development expenses, build district and school capacity in core, supplemental and intensive SEB support. Funds may not be used to purchase software, fund positions, or stipends.

Funds for the IABS grant will be allocated based on set criteria around innovation, a clear precise problem statement, LEA size, number of students/staff that will be supported, and other items gathered in the application. Awards starting in 2023 will consider compliance with reporting and amount of grant funds expended.

Applications are due Tuesday, September 6, 2022 by 5:00pm.

Preview application questions

IABS Grant 2022-2023 Application

<u>Items of Interest</u>

Spoken Language Facilitation Canvas Course

The fall 2022 offering of the Spoken Language Facilitation Canvas Course will begin 9/2/22. To learn more about this training, please go to the [Course Description](#). To register for the course, please email virginia.madorin@dpi.nc.gov.



August 17, 2022

Beginning Teacher Support for Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The Regional Consultants for Deaf and Hard of Hearing under the Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section want to remind you of the development of an ongoing cohort of support for beginning Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing starting in the 2022-23 school year. To participate, teachers need to be serving students who are deaf or hard of hearing and be in Beginning Teacher Status (years 1-3). If you have a Teacher(s) of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing within your district who would be interested in joining this cohort, please email Virginia Madorin at virginia.madorin@dpi.nc.gov . If you have emailed previously, there is no need to respond again.

DeafBlind Intervener Cohort

The East Carolina University Teacher Support Program (ECU TSP) is excited to announce the 2022-23 DeafBlind Intervener Cohort training opportunity! It is geared towards those currently working directly with learners with DeafBlindness in intervener or instructional assistant positions. Please see the attached flyer for more information (**ATTACHED**).

National DeafBlind Educator Network CoP

The National DeafBlind Educator Network Community of Practice (CoP) is starting up again this fall, and their first meeting is September 20, 2022. Do you know an educator who would like to be involved? For more information, contact Brandy Johanson Sebera at brandy.sebera@usd.edu .

Graduate Certificate in DeafBlindness - University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky is now offering a graduate certificate in DeafBlindness. The program is fully online, with both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, so it is available to professionals in other states. [View the website to learn more.](#)

Effective Mathematics Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

The Office of Exceptional Children is pleased to offer Effective Mathematics Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities series. This course aligns the Foundations of Math with the Extended Content Standards. It is a four-day offering in which three days are devoted to participants learning Evidence-Based Practices in Mathematics specific to the Components of Number Sense, assessing students with significant disabilities on these skills, and how to deliver instruction based on those assessment results. The fourth day integrates understanding the extended content standards and connecting the standards to the newly learned mathematical concepts. Participants will attend days one and two, then break for a period in order to apply the content with students in which they work, before returning for days three and four. At the end of this series participants will be awarded 3.0 CEUs. Participants must be able to attend all sessions and partial credit will not be awarded. Attendance is limited to the first 30 registrants for each location. Please register through this link: https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02ulZRPgkVBpmPc. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Martinez at matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.gov.

Sessions:

Each session will be from 8:30-3:30.



August 17, 2022

Location: Asheville, NC
Dates: September 20-21 and October 5-6, 2022
Registration Closes: September 6, 2022

Location: Greensboro, NC
Dates: September 28-29 and October 26-27, 2022
Registration Closes: September 14, 2022

Location: Lillington, NC
Dates: March 21-22 and April 18-19, 2023
Registration Closes: March 7, 2023

Location: Wilmington, NC
Dates: March 29-30 and April 26-27, 2023
Registration Closes: March 15, 2023

Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality (EESD) Webinar Series

The NC State Board of Education and the Office of Exceptional Children are pleased to announce the 2022-23 webinar series on Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality starting August 25, 2022. The sessions are 90 minutes in length with questions and answers during the last 10 minutes of the webinar. If you wish to attend this series, please complete the [registration form](#) and additional information will follow.

Western Carolina University Project Opportunity

WCU is looking for school districts who may be interested in working with us on a possible four-year project titled *Development of an Evaluation System for Teachers of Students with Significant Disabilities* (TRAIT-SD). The purpose of the project is to establish the validity and reliability of the TRAIT-SD as an observation instrument for teachers of students with significant disabilities (moderate/severe intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, or Autism Spectrum Disorders co-occurring with an intellectual disability).

(ATTACHED)

Integrated Academic & Behavior System (IABS) NC MTSS Updates
Behavior Training

We continue to receive positive feedback on the Behavior Training Series, and we are excited about the upcoming sessions: Supplemental & Intensive Behavior and Fidelity & Outcomes in September. Please see the updated [flyer](#) for more information on the content that will be presented. See the table below for dates, times, and registration links.

Team participation is recommended for all of these training sessions. If you haven't included professionals with social, emotional, and behavioral (SEB) expertise, such as psychologists, counselors, social workers, behavioral specialists, etc. in the previous training, you are **strongly encouraged** to invite them for the



August 17, 2022

Supplemental & Intensive Behavior Training. They will be instrumental in helping you think through and plan for your intervention systems. Some of you have already begun making the connection between your SEB intervention systems and school safety. If so, we encourage you to include a representative from your school safety work. As with the other training sessions, we ask that each team member plan to physically meet in the same room with your school or district team, if possible, utilizing one computer to log into the training and project for the team. A Certificate of Completion will be available to each team member through the feedback link provided at the end of the session. Each team member may want a device to access the slides and Guiding Document that will be utilized during the training. All content, materials, links, and resources will be sent prior to each training session.

- **Supplemental & Intensive Behavior**

West

- Sept 22
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=r281571c3d96f0d2b677ede2077b14598>

Central

- Sept 14
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=r65fbe4885eb6f666ea4fa78430743aad>

East

- Sept 13
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=re0987b641e0c15792138355fafc5ba26>

- **Fidelity & Outcomes**

West

- Sept 29
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=rd3083f44ba1a4713295237a57ff082ff>

Central

- Sept 28
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=r957564ca405213c63a4ecfc56c94e42b>



August 17, 2022

East

- Sept 29
- 8:30-12:30
- Registration Link:
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=rcaef23d3b4c1df3cbaa60288ec5e6b14>

ECATS MTSS Module Updates

PCG and the IABS team are excited to announce refinements to the Intervention and Progress Monitoring Tool management process. LEAs will have the capability to add, delete, and manage their own interventions within the ECATS EWS interface beginning summer 2022. LEAs will have the capability to select the progress monitoring tools that appear on their site during a window this summer and early fall.

Support sessions (content repeated) will be offered for MTSS contacts during August. Session dates, times, and meeting links and additional ECATS MTSS Updates are in the [August MTSS ECATS Updates](#).

ICYMI

Assistive Technology Expo

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Office of Exceptional Children is pleased to announce that it will partner with the NC Assistive Technology Program (NCATP) to host a virtual Assistive Technology Expo to be held on September 29, 2022. The Office of Exceptional Children 2022 AT Expo that was to be held on August 2nd will now take place on September 29. Both organizations are excited to work in collaboration on planning and hosting the joint NC Assistive Technology Expo providing a valuable, streamlined experience for practitioners, families, and individuals with disabilities. We look forward to seeing where this partnership can take us in the years to come. [Register today!](#)

Federal Reporting

● **Indicator 7 - NOW OPEN!**

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes in ECATS. The certification schedule for Indicator 7 began August 1, 2022 and is due by close of business August 19, 2022.

● **Indicator 11**

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 11: Child Find in ECATS. The certification schedule for Indicator 11 begins October 3, 2022 and is due by close of business October 31, 2022.

● **Indicator 12**

Indicator 12 must be submitted via spreadsheet by all Traditional Public-School Units prior to the due date of October 31, 2022. Charter Schools and State Operated Programs do not need to submit an Indicator 12 spreadsheet this year. The Indicator 12 spreadsheet can be accessed from the ECATS Reporting website at:



August 17, 2022

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/everychild-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/reporting>. Please email all completed Indicator 12 spreadsheets to ecindicators@dpi.nc.gov.

- **Indicator 14**

Selected Public-School Units are responsible for documenting post school outcomes survey data in ECATS for each student that graduated, dropped out, received a certificate, or aged out during the 2020-21 school year as reported in the 2020-21 Exit Report. All Post-School Outcome survey data are to be entered in ECATS by September 16, 2022. Your cooperation in meeting the deadline for data submission is greatly appreciated. The ECATS Reporting site has access to multiple resources on Indicator 14, including the recorded Indicator 14 training session. You can access these resources from the following link: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroomresources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/reporting>

PK EC Items of Interest

No Items this week.

Action Items/What's Due?

Import information regarding the American Printing House for the Blind Federal Quota Program

Orders for students currently on the legally blind registry will be on a temporary hold from **September 1, 2022, through October 5, 2022**. Please be mindful of the students in your PSU who are eligible and may require Accessible Materials through Quota Funds. There will be no exceptions to this temporary freeze as it is part of the National Quota Program's fiscal year end procedures. Be proactive to ensure students do not have a delay in materials.

August Calendar Items
