EC Division Weekly Update January 19, 2022

News!

NC Council on Exceptional Children (NC CEC) Virtual Conference

The NC CEC will hold their 35th Annual Conference on 2/25 - 2/26/22. This year, the conference will be virtual. The conference sessions will be focused on interventions and/or training that reflect visionary opportunities and quality education for students with disabilities across educational settings, home, community, and workplace settings which reflect the best thinking in the field informed by research, and practice. See the flyer for more information and registration. (ATTACHED)

March Institute Date Change

Due to current conditions with the Omicron variant, the March Institute is being rescheduled for **May 9-12**, **2022**. Currently, this is planned to be a face-to-face event at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. The EC division will continue to monitor CDC and NC DHHS recommendations concerning face to face meetings as we approach the new dates. More information will be shared in future updates about registration and agenda items.

Director Webinars 2022

Upcoming Director's Webinars will be held on the following dates: 2/15/22, 4/19/22, 6/21/22, 8/16/22, 10/18/22, and 12/6/22.

Links to the webinars will be shared prior to each event.

Items of Interest

Federal Reporting

Federal Personnel Survey

The Federal Personnel data collection for the 2021-22 school year will be submitted via a revised survey that combines the Related Service Workforce survey with the federally required personnel data. Responses should include all indicated personnel (employed, contracted, itinerant, full-time and part-time) that served students with disabilities on December 1, 2021. The revised survey includes headcount, FTE, vacancies, salary, and other helpful staffing information for programs supporting students with disabilities.

All LEAs, Charters and State Operated Programs that submitted a December 2021 child count are required to submit personnel data via this survey.

The survey tool will be available mid-February. Training on the new survey fields will be held via webinar on February 9, 2022. Repeat 1-hour sessions will be available at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. The link to attend the training is: https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/khalilah.ofarrow

• 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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Grant Information

• Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

The MOE Expenditure Table was due by October 31, 2021, for PSUs with approved IDEA grants. The MOE Expenditure Table is a federal requirement, and the grant will remain open for late submission. 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. If you have questions, please contact your fiscal monitor.

Special Grants

Special grants, with the status of Chief Administrator Approved, are reviewed monthly after the 15th. (If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, the review will start of the next business day 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.

IDEA/ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)

American Rescue Plan budgets should be submitted as soon as possible.

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. At the current time, those with approved budgets for PRC 185 have been allotted 75% of their total funds. The additional 25% will be included in a future allotment.

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. At the current time, those with approved budgets for PRC 186 have been allotted 75% of their total funds. The additional 25% will be included in a future allotment.

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
 - o Directors/Coordinators can view the budgets once submitted by clicking on the budget link on the IDEA Grant Sections page
 - o 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.
 - o 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.

<u>Additional Information from School Business Newsletter – 01/14/22</u>

School Business Newsletter 01/14/22

Specially Designed Instruction for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities Webinar

Here is the registration link for the webinar, Specially Designed Instruction for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities on January 31, 2022. For more information about this webinar, please see the January 12 weekly update. Registration link: https://bit.ly/3qBbk9z

GAP Mentorship Program for Educational Interpreters

The GAP mentorship program is offering mentoring and workshops for educational interpreters. Please see the flyers for more information. NC interpreters are eligible for three free 1:1 sessions. The spring cycle will begin mid-March. For more information, please email gap.ed@aslowl.org. (ATTACHED)

Young Exceptional Perspectives (YEP) Quarterly Newsletter

YEP is a quarterly publication by and for NC youth with disabilities produced by the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center. Please share the <u>January 2022 Newsletter</u> with students, staff, and families.

PK EC Items of Interest	
Action Items/ What's Due?	