

## General Information

### Federal and State Funding Allotments

Please be advised that all offices inside NCDPI are working collaboratively to make funding streams available as soon as possible in light of a pending State budget and anticipated federal funding for grants awarded to States. This sequence of events will likely have an impact on the timeline for special grant awards. Updates will be communicated as soon as they are available.

### 72<sup>nd</sup> Exceptional Children Conference

We are pleased to announce The Koury Convention Center still has rooms available at the conference rate. Please use the following link to make reservations.

#### Booking Website

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50467552>

## Administrative/Supervisory

### Vacancy: Region 3 and 4 Autism Consultant

On September 13, 2023, it was announced that Nancy Childress had moved to a new position under the Program Improvement and Professional Development section as the Personnel Development Consultant. We are thrilled that Nancy will still support the State in the vital area of Recruitment and Retention for Educators.

As a result of this change, the following Consultants for Autism will support Regions 3 and 4 until a new team member is hired.

Sandhills  
Amanda Passmore  
[Amanda.Passmore@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Amanda.Passmore@dpi.nc.gov)  
(984) 236-2618

North Central  
Maureen Kaniuka  
[Maureen.Kaniuka@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Maureen.Kaniuka@dpi.nc.gov)  
(984) 236-2619

## Instructional/Related Services/Disability Specific

### NCDPI K-12 Science Leadership Committee

The NCDPI Science Team, in collaboration with the Office of Exceptional Children, is seeking members to be a part of the NCDPI K-12 Science Leadership Committee for the 2023-2024 school year. Serving on the Leadership Committee provides members an opportunity to share their expertise and perspectives with other teachers and science leaders across the state. **(ATTACHED)**

## Early Childhood (EC|EC)

### ECTA Early Childhood Personnel Solutions Learning Community

The focus of the newly formed ECTA Early Childhood Personnel Solutions Learning Community is to share innovative strategies to attract, prepare and retain early intervention (EI) and early childhood special education (ECSE) staff and service providers. Monthly meetings will be held on second Tuesdays, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Eastern US time, beginning October 10, 2023. IDEA Part C and Part B, Section 619 Coordinators are invited to register. Content will be organized around the Office of Special Education Program's (OSEP) [Prepare, Attract, Retain](#) framework and will inform the work of the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center's (ECTA) National Synthesis of Innovative Practices in Recruitment and Retention of EI/ECSE Personnel. [Register to join](#).

Read more: <https://unc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tceqhpjgJG9SorXKdVmMYj483-1pL3Aec>

### Gov. Cooper Directs \$8 Million to NC Pre-K Classrooms

Many LEA Preschool Exceptional Children programs leverage the NC Pre-K program to support inclusive settings for young children with disabilities. On September 13th, Gov. Cooper is [directing \\$8 million](#) in federal funding to provide a one-time special allocation to all NC Pre-K classrooms to help address classroom needs for the new school year. The [NC Pre-K Program](#) operates in every county statewide to provide high-quality early childhood education for eligible children.

This one-time special allocation can be used for upgrading classroom materials, toys, supplies, playground equipment, supplemental curriculum materials, ongoing facility maintenance needs, mental health support for children and staff, professional development for staff, and other needs. NCDHHS will distribute the funding to provide approximately \$3,860 per classroom for the 2,098 NC Pre-K-funded classrooms statewide that are serving students this year.

Funding for this new investment in NC Pre-K is from federal Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) funds that have reverted to the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) fund. **If your LEA offers NC Pre-K, please stay abreast of [DCDEE updates](#) and be sure to connect with your local NC Pre-K contractor regarding this funding. (see attachment)**



No updates this week.

## Revisions to OEC Activities Guide

### [OEC 2023-2024 Activities Guide](#)

No updates this week.

## ICYMI

### Statewide Meeting for Related Service Provider Representatives

Eastern location: September 27, 2023 | 10:00am – 3:00pm | Tarboro, NC

Western location: September 29, 2023 | 10:00am – 3:00pm | Lenoir, NC

- [Registration information](#)

### Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality

Session two of the Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality monthly webinar series will be held on **Thursday, September 28** from 3:00pm-4:30pm. This month's presenter will be Tricia Zunker. Ms. Zunker will present ***Inclusive Spaces & Culturally-Sensitive Policies***. Please use the link below to attend the webinar.

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m49be149833e9e4bbefed4bcabd198bc3>

If you have any questions, contact Alysha Gray ([alysha.gray@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:alysha.gray@dpi.nc.gov)) or Dreama McCoy ([dreama.mccoy@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:dreama.mccoy@dpi.nc.gov)).

### Training Video: Alternate Assessment Eligibility Worksheet

The Alternate Assessment Eligibility Worksheet training video is available. The purpose of the training video is for professionals to become familiar with the process for completing the worksheet for IEP teams considering the ECS placement. An [FAQ](#) sheet has also been created to assist professionals when completing the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Worksheet.

Webex meeting recording: Alternate Assessment Eligibility Worksheet ECATS

Password: Worksheet2023!

Recording link: <https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/ldr.php?RCID=51e07cef5abecc0a1d667fa67b96ed1a>

## Calendar Items/What's Due?

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPERVISORY

[OEC 2023-2024 Activities Guide](#)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

[NCDPI OEC Calendar of Events in List View](#)

[NCDPI Calendar of Events in Calendar View](#)

Please note: These calendars include OEC professional development opportunities through October 1, 2023. By October 1, 2023, the OEC anticipates that opportunities for the remainder of 2023-2024 will be posted.

Local exceptional children staff should check this calendar often as it is the authoritative source for technical assistance and professional development provided by the OEC. This information will not be duplicated in the Weekly Update beginning in October.