



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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MEMORANDUM

January 9, 2020

TO: Directors/Coordinators, Exceptional Children Programs

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas, Director

Carol Ann M. Hudgens, Section Chief
Policy, Monitoring and Audit

RE: ECATS: New Policy – Autism Spectrum Disorder

The new policy regarding the identification of children suspected of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) became effective on January 1, 2020. As a result of this change in policy, configurations in ECATS must be completed to correspond to the new policy requirements. These changes were initiated in ECATS after the policy was approved by the NC State Board of Education, but have not yet been completed.

Therefore, in the interim, please refer to the attached ECATS Tip Sheet: Autism Spectrum Disorder and the Autism Spectrum Disorder Eligibility Worksheet for use when ASD is suspected for new referrals and when reevaluations are initiated to determine ongoing eligibility for special education and related services.

Please contact your assigned regional monitoring consultant or consultant for Autism if there are additional questions.

SHT/CAH/cah

c: NCDPI ECD Regional Coordinators
NCDPI ECD Consultants for Autism
NCDPI ECD Monitoring Consultants

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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