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| **Exceptional Children Information for Parents** | [Exceptional Children Division logo.](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children-division) |
| April 6, 2022 |  |
| Summertime is quickly approaching! Now is the time to start planning for summer breaks and the Family Support Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work has made it a little easier. They recently published the 2022 Summer Camp Directory in which camps all over North Carolina are listed alphabetically by county. You can find the directory by going to the [Family Support Program webpage](https://fsp.unc.edu/?q=summer-camp).  In addition to the summer camps found in the directory, The Governor Morehead School for the Blind has several camp opportunities as well.   * Camp Dogwood – June 13-17, 2022 * Expanded Core Curriculum Program for grades K-5 and Life Skills Students for grades 6-12 – June 13-17 and June 20-24, 2022 * Expanded Core Curriculum Program for grades 6-12 – June 27-July 1, 2022 * Operation Accelerate – June 6-24, 2022   Please view the accompanying flyers for more information about these programs and to complete the application for some of these camps. Public Comment Request The Exceptional Children Division will be engaging in a public comment period during the month of April regarding two proposed class specifications for DeafBlind Interveners.  These proposed specifications are in compliance with General Statute 115C-12(15), which authorizes the State Board of Education “….to develop position evaluation descriptions covering those positions in local school administrative units for which certification by the State Board of Education is not normally a prerequisite.”  The proposed classifications will be linked on the Exceptional Children webpage for review and comments will be directed to [ecspubliccomments@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ecspubliccomments@dpi.nc.gov). | Important Links  * [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/) * [U.S. Department of Education](https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=) * [N.C. Department of Health & Human Services](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina) * [Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)](https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/Strong-Schools-NC-Public-Health-Toolkit.pdf) * [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/news/covid-19-response-resources) * [Lighting Our Way Forward (Summary)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/11qO4_l_P2xUvI3iem0fRE2mRswajY22t/view) * [No Kid Hungry](http://nokidhungrync.org/covid19/?fbclid=IwAR0wt6mBx1jSoMTb-QnyurnORW2Deu4mcGd60xtF0t0rwrMvvQLiU8igcyo) * [NCDPI-COVID-19 Responses & Resources](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/news/covid-19-response-resources)  Upcoming Events  * Arc of the Triangle [Events](https://www.arctriangle.org/calendar) * Autism Society [Workshops](https://www.autismsociety-nc.org/autism-workshops/) * Autism Speaks [Information Topics](https://www.autismspeaks.org/information-topic) * CADRE [Parent Resources](https://www.cadreworks.org/for-families) * ECAC [Events](https://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/calendar/) & [Recorded Webinars](https://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/webinars/) * National Alliance on Mental Illness [Courses](https://www.nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education) * NC Down Syndrome Alliance [Events](https://www.ncdsalliance.org/calendar/) * Special Olympics NC [Events](https://sonc.net/events-calendar/) * NC EarlyWell Initiative – April 12, 12-1:30 p.m. (see flyer for more information)  EC Parent Survey If you have received a parent survey from your district, please consider completing it. Participation is voluntary and anonymous but valuable to the state and the local districts. Data collected will be used to improve family engagement efforts to improve educational results for students with disabilities. Please view the [03.16.22 Exceptional Children Parent Survey](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12oEg65cHNqVckxbE5hAkXUdNnxnl43Ov) newsletter for more information. |
| You can find previous newsletters in the Parent Newsletter google folder at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ECParentNewsletters> | Contact: Alexis Utz, Parent Liaison  Exceptional Children Division, NC DPI  Email: [alexis.utz@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:alexis.utz@dpi.nc.gov) |