



**July 27, 2022**

**News!**

**IMPORTANT: Funding Study Survey**

On Friday, July 22nd, you should have received an email from the Office of Exceptional Children with information regarding the funding studying being conducted by Research Triangle Institute (RTI International). Please review that email communication from our office for the full impact of this study.

RTI would like feedback from local directors and have provided the following [link](#) to the survey. The survey will also be provided to Finance Directors in their Friday newsletter. This survey will be open until COB on August 9th.

Thank you in advance for making time to complete this most important survey.

**Accessible Educational Materials (AEM)**

The [NC Request for Accessible Formats including NIMAC request](#) is now available for the 2022-2023 school year. Please share this information with your teams. Students without an IEP are not eligible for NIMAS sourced files; however, they may be eligible for other means of acquiring needed formats from other national, state, or local sources. For additional questions or concerns regarding AEM please contact the [NC DPI NIMAC State Coordinator](#). More comprehensive information on Accessible Education Materials can be found on the [NC DPI AEM Webpage](#). The [planning tool](#) was developed and shared previously to help teams ensure correct materials are being requested once format(s) have been determined based on the student's need.

**The CARE Project - Family Fun Day for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

The CARE Project is hosting a Family Fun Day for families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing in Salisbury, NC on August 6, 2022. For more information, please [view the flier here](#).

**American Sign Language Story Time**

The NC Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is offering American Sign Language Storytelling Time for Children through Zoom. To learn more about this offering, [view the flier here](#).

**Special Grants Training**

Special Grants Training (Risk Pool, Special State Reserve, Developmental Day, Community Residential, Group/Foster Home and Out of District) will be held on the following dates:

**August 17, 2022 (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)** click link below to register:

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=r34b664e106f4e83750693eaabfa09547>

**August 18, 2022 (1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** click link below to register:

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?RGID=rd632a03f987b05bd66cba0e8985bb48f>

Participants will only need to attend one of the sessions. You must register to attend. Once you have registered, you will receive an email with the link to join the session you signed up for. If you have any



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questions, please contact Jamie Davis at: [Jamie.Davis@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Jamie.Davis@dpi.nc.gov). Grant applications will open on **September 2, 2022**.

### **Items of Interest**

#### **STAR: Student Transition Assistance Resources**

The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) and Disability:IN North Carolina (DI-NC) have partnered to offer the STAR Program, a Vocational Rehabilitation Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to students with disabilities ages 16-21 beginning in fall 2022. The STAR program will serve students with disabilities with an IEP or 504 Plan, including students who attend public schools, charter schools, and students who are homeschooled. Space is limited and all students will be required to meet the eligibility criteria to be considered for the STAR Program. For more information contact Debra Pickens, [dpickens@ecacmail.org](mailto:dpickens@ecacmail.org). Please share the [Interest Survey](#) with parents.

### **ICYMI**

#### **Federal Reporting**

- **Indicator 7**

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes in ECATS. The certification schedule for Indicator 7 begins 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: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/reporting>. Please email all completed Indicator 12 spreadsheets to [ecindicators@dpi.nc.gov](mailto: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/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/reporting>

- **Important Federal Reporting Reminder: Submission Timeliness**



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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.

- **Information from Monday Message – 07/25/2022**

[Monday Message 7.25.22.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

**Grant Information**

- **2023 IDEA Grant for New Charter Schools**

Charter schools opening for the first year in 2022 – 2023, will be trained on the IDEA Grant application in early December 2022. The application will open for submission after the mandatory training. A due date for the submission will be determined when the planning allotments for the new charter schools are released by DPI School Business.

- **IDEA Grant and Budget Update**

The Object Code 122 EC-Salary-Interim Teacher-Non-Certified has been removed from the Chart of Accounts for all federal EC Funds. EC Teachers paid from federal funds are required to hold licensure in Exceptional Children.

**Additional Information from School Business Newsletter – 07/22/22**

[School Business Newsletter 07.22.22](#)

<b>PK EC Items of Interest</b>
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**Preschool Contact and TSG Survey**

The NC Office of Early Learning is working diligently to be more responsive in our communication with all preschool partners and to improve the quality of preschool data.

This survey serves these purposes:

1. To gather contact information for all LEA preschool contacts to ensure that we are sending the right information to the partners who need it (Title I Preschool, Preschool EC, NC Pre-K, CTE Preschool, Developmental Day, Teaching Strategies GOLD® administrator).
2. To determine the projected number of Teaching Strategies GOLD® portfolios that NCDPI will fund for the 2022-2023 school year.
3. To better understand the composition of preschool in each LEA.

**Please work together with your LEA preschool colleagues and [click here](#) to complete the survey by August 5, 2022.**

A PDF copy of the survey is attached for your reference. **(ATTACHED)**

**Updated NC PreK Requirements and Guidance**

Please find attached to this email the **REVISED** 2022-2023 *Additional Guidance for NC Pre-K Programs*. As a reminder, this guidance serves as a replacement to the *Interim COVID-19 Policies for NC Pre-K Programs* and was originally shared with you on May 18, 2022, and was created to address program expectations specific to NC Pre-K programs and classrooms for the 2022-2023 program year. This guidance applies to all NC Pre-K



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classrooms, regardless of the setting in which they operate (public school, private childcare center, Head Start program) and provides information on the following: *(the section that has been revised is indicated below)*

- Health & Safety Guidance
- Program Year
- Site Level Staff Flexibilities
- Mode of Instruction
- Circumstances When Remote Learning May Be Needed
- Remote Learning Requirements
- Payment Policy
- Legislative Rate Increases for Private Sites
- Child Care Rule .3013 **REVISED – July 19, 2022** *This section has updated information regarding the requirements for teacher assistants. Please read it carefully and thoroughly.*
- Session Law 117
- Teaching Strategies Resources
- LETRS Training

Attached to this message please find the [2022-2023 NC Pre-K Program Requirements and Guidance](#) which has been updated with the new link to the [REVISED 2022-2023 Additional Guidance for NC Pre-K Programs](#).  
**(ATTACHED)**

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<b>Action Items/What's Due?</b>
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**2023 IDEA Grant Applications**

All initial 2023 IDEA grant applications must have regional coordinator requested corrections completed and re-submitted. Once the new submission is completed the approved grant will be returned for Chief Administrator Approval. This must be done by no later than July 31, 2022.

<b>July Calendar Items</b>
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⇒ July 27th Program Compliance Cohort [Survey](#) Due



**EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**  
NC Department of Public Instruction

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