



Weekly Update
January 18, 2023

News!

Statewide Meeting for Related Service Provider Representatives

Save the date for The Spring 2023 Meeting for Related Service Provider Representatives will be held in two locations (east and west), allowing for a greater chance to attend our in-person sessions! Content presented will be the same at both sessions. These sessions will not be recorded. **(ATTACHED)**

Save the date:

March 3, 2023 (Catawba Valley Community College, Hickory, NC)

- Educational Interpreters
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychological Services
- Speech-language Pathology

March 20, 2023 (The Education Center – Eastern AHEC, Greenville, NC)

- Audiology (hybrid)
- Educational Interpreters (In-person)
- Orientation & Mobility (hybrid)
- Occupational Therapy (In-person)
- Physical Therapy (In-person)
- Psychological Services (In-person)
- Speech-language Pathology (In-person)

Secondary MTSS Implementation and Networking Sessions:

We are pleased to announce a series of upcoming **Secondary MTSS Implementation and Networking Sessions**. These sessions will be offered in-person at three locations, covering the eastern, central, and western regions of the state. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional details and the link for registration below.

- **Secondary MTSS Implementation and Networking Sessions Flyer**
 - Eastern Session: 2/13/23
 - Central Session: 2/24/23
 - Western Session: 3/7/23
 - **Registration Link (for all sessions):** <https://forms.gle/zstiKFrQLSw6H5em7>

All sessions will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with scheduled breaks and lunch on your own. Your district is encouraged to bring a team to these sessions. We recommend a team of 3-5 members. Please note sessions will be limited to 80 participants. Registration will close once session capacity is reached, so please register each of your team members as soon as possible. For additional questions, please contact your IABS regional consultant.



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Recruitment and Retention of Special Educators Summit

The Recruitment and Retention of Special Educators Summit will take place at the Koury Convention Center on March 2, 2023. It will be a half-day event after March Institute. Make sure to include this in your hotel reservations for March Institute if you plan to attend the summit. The registration for the summit will come out next week.

Combined Expenditure Report

The Combined Expenditure Reports are being sent out this week. This report will allow you to better track your funds in PRC 029, PRC 118, and PRC 119. **Please note that the due date for the Mid-Year is March 15, 2023 and not January 31, 2023 (per spreadsheet).** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nicole Sinclair at nicole.sinclair@dpi.nc.gov.

UPDATE: DPI Hearing Screening Guidance

The OEC has updated its Hearing Screening Guidance dated 11.30.22. This update is in response to questions received from the field. The updated information is documented in red and replaces the previously issued guidance. **(ATTACHED)**

An EC Office Hours will be available on Friday, January 20, 2023, beginning at 9:30 am to respond to any remaining questions. Perry Flynn, Consultant for Speech Language Pathology, Sherri Vernelson, Section Chief for Sensory Support and Assistive Technology, and Carol Ann Hudgens, Section Chief for Policy, Monitoring, and Audit will host the session. Participants can log on at 9:30 am using the following link:

<https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens> No registration is required.

SIMR Support Session

PSUs are welcome to join a final help session for completing the SiMR Data Analysis on Friday, Jan. 27, from 12-1p at <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/lauren.holahan>. OEC staff will be available to answer questions, review draft responses, and/or support data access. The SiMR Data Analysis is due in [this Qualtrics submission portal](#) by January 31.

2023 March Institute

Please see the memo with registration details concerning the upcoming March Institute to be held Monday, February 27 through Thursday, March 2 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. **(ATTACHED)**

Items of Interest

The MAGIC of Math for Students who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing:

This two-day in-person presentation on Thursday, February 9th and Friday, February 10th will help decipher and navigate the Magic of mathematics to support the education of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. These two days will not only teach the theory behind the language of math but will provide hands-on experience and teaching strategies to take back to the classroom and use when interpreting math. Times for



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both days will be from 9:00 am-4:00pm and will be held at DPI Room 150 S located at 301 N. Wilmington St. Raleigh NC. [Register](#) now as seats are limited. Questions about this professional learning can be directed to Antwan.Campbell@dpi.nc.gov.

Professional Learning: Complex Learners with Hearing Loss

This professional learning will be held in-person (with no virtual option to attend) on March 15th from 8:30am-3:30pm. The location of the training is at the West Concord Resource Center Olive Room located at 509 West Concord St in Morganton NC. This workshop is geared toward professionals who work with complex learners with hearing loss in NC public schools. In this workshop, professionals will identify and understand the complex learner, communication goals, and create strategies to help their students achieve within the classroom on a daily basis. This is presented by M. Antwan Campbell, Heidi Carico, and Matthew Martinez. For questions about this professional learning, please contact [M. Antwan Campbell](#). Please [register](#) soon as registration will close on March 1, 2023.

Deaf. Blind. Limitless. Conference

On March 13-16, 2023, the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind will host the Deaf. Blind. Limitless. Conference in Greenville, SC. For more information about this event, please view the [conference information](#).

Professional Learning Opportunity: Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the General Education Setting

The NCDPI Autism Team is providing the professional learning opportunity *Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the General Education Setting* in the following locations:

Greenville, NC

Elementary: February 22, 2023

Secondary: February 23, 2023

Sylva, NC

Elementary: April 12, 2023

Secondary: April 13, 2023

These one-day workshops are intended for professionals working with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the general education setting. Participants will be provided with an overview of the characteristics of ASD to support the planning and provision of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI). Particular attention will be given to the use of visual supports to increase student engagement in and completion of standards-aligned tasks and assignments.

Each workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and participants will receive .6 CEUs upon completion. Content is focused on grade-level academic instruction; therefore, participants should register for the session



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that corresponds to their work setting. Please follow this [link](#) to access registration. Registration will close on February 15, 2023. Please email questions to asdteam@dpi.nc.gov.

January Virtual Meeting and Office hours

The Office of Exceptional Children consultant for Physical Therapy and Medicaid offers virtual meetings and office hours. These are open to any interested parties. Please see the associated document for additional information. **(ATTACHED)**

Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality (EESD) Webinar Series

Session #4 of SY 2022-2023 EESD webinar series will be held on Thursday, January 26 from 3:00-4:30 pm. Each session is 90 minutes in length with questions and answers during the last 10 minutes of the webinar. This month's presenters are Lynn Makor, NC DPI Consultant for Psychological Services and Bridgette LeCompte, NC DPI Consultant for Occupational Therapy.

Please see the attached document for additional information on the upcoming webinar. Questions regarding EESD Webinar series may be directed to Dreama.McCoy@dpi.nc.gov or Alysha.Gray@dpi.nc.gov. **(ATTACHED)**

ICYMI

New Social Studies Extended Content Standards

New Social Studies Extended Content Standards have been developed and now part of the GRAD 010 policy for students with significant cognitive disabilities. In an effort to support the instructional aspect, a video was made with support tools included within the presentation. The video link and password are below along with the links for the presentation and the resources discussed.

Webex meeting recording: Social Studies Extended Content Standards

Password: SSecs2022!

Recording link: <https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/ldr.php?RCID=851693fe167495bcecd2ac5108277a8a>

Presentation

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-Y4d9dv1H2q6tG8Gy7TJ0nsaxAFCFL01/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=112430787872224469175&rtpof=true&sd=true)

[Y4d9dv1H2q6tG8Gy7TJ0nsaxAFCFL01/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=112430787872224469175&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-Y4d9dv1H2q6tG8Gy7TJ0nsaxAFCFL01/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=112430787872224469175&rtpof=true&sd=true)

Resources

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kDpRC-ulvbgUF4WnxL9pJTR6YQzIFaECpi8Y7ruSums/edit?usp=sharing>

Federal Reporting

● **Federal Reporting Preparation**

In preparation for upcoming federal reporting, the following reports are available to check data each month for accuracy and address any possible errors that must be corrected prior to the certification schedule:



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- April Child Count – April 2023 | 04/02/2022 – 04/01/2023
- Indicator 7 – August 2023 | 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023
- Exit Count – September 2023 | 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023
- Indicator 11 – October 2023 | 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023

These reports are accessible in ECATS from Reporting > Standard Reports > Special Education tab. As a reminder, the schedule for the upcoming indicators and counts are listed in the Important Dates Calendar at 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**

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.

Grant Information

- **Developmental Day Center (DDC) Funds Reminder**

To be eligible for Developmental Day Center funds, each student must be placed in the DDC as the least restrictive environment by the IEP team. As discussed in the Special Grants training, the placement decision should be documented on the IEP or Prior Written Notice. As with all placement decisions, the placement in the DDC should be reviewed and documented at all subsequent IEP team meetings for the student. Additional criteria for receiving DDC funds for preschool students are:

- Require special education 5 days a week and one of the following
- At least three hours each day of specially designed instruction or
- At least two hours each day of specially designed instruction with at least one weekly related service
- At least one hour each day of specially designed instruction with at least two weekly related services

For school aged students, the need for specially designed instruction should be 5 days a week for a minimum of four hours each day.

- **IDEA American Rescue Plan (PRC 185, PRC 186, and PRC 187)**

New Grant Award Notifications (GANs) have been sent out through CCIP for PRC 185, PRC 186, and PRC 187. The previous GANs that were provided incorrectly stated that the Subaward Budget Period of Performance/Subaward Period ends on 9/30/2024. The newly issued GAN has the correct period of performance of 7/01/2021-9/30/2023 with a subaward amount of 0.00 because all funds are carryover funds with no new allotment. All funds must be encumbered by 9/30/2023 and spent by 12/31/2023.

- **IDEA Funds and Overtime Pay**

Overtime pay for classified employees is an allowable expense in federal grants. For the classified employee to receive overtime pay out of federal funds the employee is required to be serving students with disabilities



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100% of the time. If the employee is serving non-disabled students in any capacity, then the overtime cannot be paid out of federal funds.

- **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.

PK EC Items of Interest

Allocation for PRC 119- Preschool Targeted Assistance:

The Office of Early Learning and the Office of Exceptional Children are pleased to announce the release of PRC119 funds. These Targeted Assistance Funds are used to support:

1. *PSU Preschool Coordinator professional learning,*
2. *Preschool Pyramid Model (PPM) Implementation, and*
3. *Preschool Regional Representative Support*

Each PSU has been allotted \$2,000 to ensure their preschool leaders and/or staff participates in professional learning events designed to support preschool initiatives related to child find and serving children with disabilities. Funds can also support related travel expenses as applicable. Cumberland, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Wake, Guilford, and Forsyth Counties will be allotted \$4,000 to support additional staff participation. PSU Preschool Coordinators who serve as regional representatives will also receive additional funds.

A PRC119 budget or budget amendment must be submitted that aligns with the NCDPI Finance allotment amount. Allocation amounts for PPM implementation, and regional support must align with the approved activities, spending plans and assurances. The use of a unique identifier would assist with tracking and efficiently monitoring the use of funds per spending initiative.

Per the Federal Grant Programs [Allotment Policy](#), current year awards for which a PSU is eligible have been reduced by the amount of funds carried over from the previous fiscal year. If you have any questions, please contact Keashia Walker at Keashia.Walker@dpi.nc.gov.

Compliance Tip of the Week

An important tool to document communication between school and home can be found in ECATS under Student Information > Contacts. This log may be especially helpful when documenting multiple attempts to schedule a mutually agreeable IEP Team meeting. Consider establishing local practices for appropriate use (i.e. the specific events to be documented and how those events are to be documented professionally).

January Calendar Items/What's Due?

- **January 1st - February 14th** Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students



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- **January 20th:** EC Office Hours - Topic: DPI Hearing Screening Guidance
9:30 am <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens>
No registration required
- **January 30th:** Corrective Action due for Indicator 13: Postsecondary Transition monitoring
*Applies only to PSUs monitored during the 2021-2022 targeted monitoring activity
- **January 31st**
PRC 29: Quarterly Behavior Support Assessment NC Behavior Support Site
- **January 31st**
SiMR Self-Assessment Data Analysis Submission

Save the Date: March Institute

Monday, February 27th - Wednesday, March 1st