



**Weekly Update**  
**January 25, 2023**

**News!**

**UPDATE: March Institute Agenda**

Please find the *DRAFT* March Institute Agenda, scheduled for February 27-March 2, 2023 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro at this [link](#). The information will be updated as rooms for Thursday are finalized. As a reminder, the registration for this Institute will close at 5:00 pm on February 17th. Room block for the hotel closes on January 27th.

**Adapted Physical Education Spring Webinar**

Dr. Kaky McPeak, CAPE will present the Spring webinar discussing APE screenings and APE assessments on February 2, 2023, at 3:00 pm. Please see the attached document for additional information. **(ATTACHED)**

**Recruitment and Retention of Special Educators Summit**

The registration is now open for the Recruitment and Retention of Special Educators Summit. The summit will take place on Thursday, March 2 after the March Institute at Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. This is a half-day event with breakfast, keynote address, and breakout sessions. We encourage EC Directors/Coordinators to invite one or two people from your HR department and collaboratively decide if a school administrator from your district would benefit from content about recruiting and retaining special education teachers and invite them. Please use and share this registration link for the summit:

[https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8IDjTufsirbUoZ0](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8IDjTufsirbUoZ0)

Make or extend your hotel stay (if you are already registered for March Institute only through Tuesday night): [Hotel Registration Link](#) Questions about the summit can be directed to [Carol.Moffitt@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Carol.Moffitt@dpi.nc.gov).

**All Leaders Understand, Support and Collaborate to Provide Evidence-Based Instruction**

A 6-hour asynchronous online course for district and building leadership teams to dig deeper into components of Implementation Science. Participants will use activities to explore their academic initiatives and to understand the compelling why of authentic engagement in school improvement. Teams will collaboratively use tools provided by the National Implementation Research Network to focus on building readiness, implementation stages, implementation teams, and implementation drivers. Course participants will gain the skills to develop, implement, and evaluate district and school plans that support the improvement of core content instruction and achievement of students with disabilities. [Registration link](#)

**Overview of Reading Research to Classroom Practice and Foundations of Math**

A 6-hour asynchronous online course designed to provide administrators an overview of the 40-hour courses, Reading Research to Classroom Practice (RRtCP) and Foundations of Math (FoM). Participants gain insight into what teachers learn when taking the 40-hour courses, why it is important for students, and steps administrators can take to ensure content learned from RRtCP and FoM translate to classroom practice.

[Registration Link](#)



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**Adolescent Literacy Overview**

Join the NCDPI Adolescent Literacy Team for Adolescent Literacy Overview, a one-day professional learning session designed for **district and school-based teams leading literacy planning** to review best practices in the field of literacy instruction for students in the grades 4-12 and to begin the problem-solving process of reviewing current practices (this session is designed for team attendance, not individuals to attend alone due to implementation planning built into the session). The session will assist your team in developing a sustainable, effective Adolescent Literacy framework within your school or PSU.

Successful completion and participation in this professional learning results in 0.6 CEUs.

Regions 1-4 (Northeast, Southeast, North Central, Sandhills):

**January 31, 2023, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Johnston County Workforce Development Center

135 Best Wood Drive

Clayton, NC 27520

[Registration Link](#)

Regions 5-8 (Piedmont-Triad, Southwest, Northwest, Western):

**February 17, 2023, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Catawba County Schools

Conference Room C

2285 North Anderson Avenue

Newton, NC 28658

[Registration Link](#)

**Understanding the Mathematics Extended Content Standards**

This one-day professional learning provides an opportunity to understand and apply the Mathematics Extended Content Standards through collaboration with peer educators. This professional learning is directed towards teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities. During the day, professionals will collaborate to analyze, decode, plan, and create mathematical activities. The professional learning will be held March 9th in Burke County from 8:30 until 3:30 with an hour lunch.

[https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_ezYM3tTCuyuid1Q](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ezYM3tTCuyuid1Q)

**Foundations of Autism: Instructional Practices**

The NCDPI Autism Team is providing the professional learning opportunity *Foundations of Autism: Instructional Practices*. Participants can choose from either of the following locations:

Hickory, NC: March 16, 2023 - March 17, 2023

Williamston, NC: March 21, 2023 - March 22, 2023



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In addition to attending the two-day in person sessions, there will be a 3-hour webinar on May 1, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

These workshops are intended for professionals working with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This workshop will provide participants with an overview of the learning styles of individuals with ASD and effective instructional practices that promote student engagement and independence in the educational environment, with particular attention to the use of visual supports (schedules, activity systems, material design, and environmental design).

The workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day and participants will receive 1.6 CEUs upon completion. Participants are required to attend both the in-person session and the webinar in order to receive the CEUs. No partial credit will be given.

Please follow this [link](#) to access registration. **Registration will close on March 9, 2023.** Please email questions to [asdteam@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:asdteam@dpi.nc.gov).

**Statewide Meeting of Related Service Provider Representatives**

[Registration](#) is open for the Statewide Meeting of Related Service Provider Representatives.

The spring 2023 meeting 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. Please see the attached flyer for additional details and [registration link](#). **(ATTACHED)**

**Effective Mathematics Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities**

The Office of Exceptional Children is pleased to offer Effective Mathematics Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities series. This course aligns the Foundations of Math with the Extended Content Standards. It is a four-day offering in which three days are devoted to participants learning Evidence-Based Practices in Mathematics and the fourth day focused on the Math ECS. Participants must be able to attend all sessions and partial credit will not be awarded. Attendance is limited to the first 30 registrants for each location.

Registration for Lillington dates of March 21-22 and April 18-19

[https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3BIslvgJoxHgSbA](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3BIslvgJoxHgSbA)

Registration for Wilmington dates of March 29-30 and April 26-27

[https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_dclUiUyK5rcXh4O](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dclUiUyK5rcXh4O)

<b>Items of Interest</b>
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**Self-Paced Canvas Course: Comprehensive Literacy for All Book Study**

The NCDPI Office of Exceptional Children is offering a self-paced book study using the Canvas LMS platform.

The book under study in this course is entitled "Comprehensive Literacy for All: Teaching Students with Significant Disabilities to Read and Write" by Karen Erickson and David Koppenhaver. This book is one

resource available to educators who want to learn more about literacy instruction for students with significant



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cognitive disabilities. However, this book and the resources contained in this course do not reflect an endorsement from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. If you choose to participate, you must acquire a copy of the book on your own. There are many retail outlets that offer this book for sale at a reasonable price. Use the [Book Study registration link](#) to access this course. **(ATTACHED)**

**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 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](mailto:asdteam@dpi.nc.gov).

**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](mailto:Dreama.McCoy@dpi.nc.gov) or [Alysha.Gray@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Alysha.Gray@dpi.nc.gov). **(ATTACHED)**



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**Scholarship Opportunity**

The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) is proud to offer the Matthew C. Graziadei Achievement Scholarship Award to a North Carolina high school senior with a disability. This award includes a \$1,500 scholarship, to be used for any post high school learning experience/training or for equipment/technology needed for employment. Applications are available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, Feb 1, 2023.

**Announcing the new Assistive Technology Resource Hub**

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new [NCDPI Assistive Technology \(AT\) Resources Hub](#). This resource hub will replace our previous Assistive technology Google site. On the AT Resource Hub, you will find information about training opportunities, AT legislation, data collection tools, and links to other organizations. It is our goal that this site becomes your go to location for helpful information and resources for assistive technology in the state of North Carolina and beyond.

**Assistive Technology Webinar - Math Tools**

We are pleased to announce the first Assistive Technology webinar in our 2023 webinar series focusing on tools and assistive technology to support students in mathematics. We will offer this webinar on two different dates and times to allow for greater opportunities for participation: Wednesday 2/22/23 from 12:00 - 1:00 (EST) and again on Friday 2/24/23 from 3:00 - 4:00 (EST). To register, please complete the [February 2023 Assistive Technology - Math](#) registration form. **Registration will close on 2/7/23.** If you have questions, please contact [Josh Barton](#).

**CEIS/CCEIS Plans**

The Office of Special Education (OSEP) has made a change in the data collection for PSUs with CEIS/CCEIS plans and these changes are now required for the 2022-2023 school year. The attached spreadsheet has been updated with the changes. PSUs currently implementing a CEIS/CCEIS plan will receive a follow-up email from the fiscal consultants for support. **(ATTACHED)**

<b>ICYMI</b>
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**Combined Expenditure Report**

The Combined Expenditure Reports have been sent out. **Please note that the due date for the Mid-Year is March 15, 2023 and not January 31, 2023 (per spreadsheet).** If you did not receive one or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nicole Sinclair at [nicole.sinclair@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:nicole.sinclair@dpi.nc.gov).

**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:

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



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- 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.

**EC Office Hours: Hearing Screening**

This EC Office Hours was held last Friday, January 20, 2023. While the session was not recorded, questions from the chat were collected, answered, and attached to this weekly update. **(ATTACHED)**

<b>PK EC Items of Interest</b>
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**UPDATE: DPI Hearing Screening Guidance**

The OEC updated the recently revised Hearing Screening Guidance dated **11.30.22** and provided that update with the January 18, 2023 Weekly Updates. ***Please note this updated document now includes preschool in the applicable age range for the guidance.***

**Save-the-Date Preschool PowerSchool Technical Assistance Opportunities**

Save-the-date for reminders, **updates** and technical assistance regarding Preschool PowerSchool data entry and reporting. There are two opportunities to join: **February 15th from 10-11am or February 16th from 2-3pm**. Registration information and links to come.

**American Printing House (APH) Legally Blind Registration**

The APH legally blind registration link is now open and will be open until February 14, 2023. Please refer to the NCAPH Memo if you have additional questions or contact [ncaph@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ncaph@dpi.nc.gov).

**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 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 [M. Antwan Campbell](#).

**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



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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.

**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](mailto:Keashia.Walker@dpi.nc.gov).

<b>Compliance Tip of the Week</b>
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**State Complaints**

The number of state complaints has increased significantly this school year; specifically in the areas of implementation of IEPs; development, review, and revision of IEPs; and prior written notices. Given NC's trend data, these numbers are high.

Region	2021-2021 as of January 20th	2022-2023 as of January 20th	Increase
Northeast (1)	2	11	+ 9 (81%)
Southeast (2)	2	10	+ 8 (80%)
North Central (3)	33	36	+ 6 (5%)





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Sandhills (4)	8	15	+ 7 (53%)
Piedmont (5)	7	18	+ 8 (47%)
Southwest (7)	15	24	+ 9 (37%)
Northwest (6)	1	1	No changes
Western (8)	3	5	+ 2 (40%)

Within these complaints, observations have been made regarding deficiencies in documenting core EC processes.

Please be reminded that there are several self-directed learning modules available to strengthen EC process knowledge. The user guide with course descriptions can be found here: [EC Processes and ECATS Courses: A User Guide for Local EC Leadership – Revised 07/2021](#)

Detailed documentation is the first step to demonstrating procedural compliance and the problem-solving data-based decisions of the IEP Team.

<b>January Calendar Items/What's Due?</b>
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- **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