

General Information

Educator of Excellence Nominations

The Office of Exceptional Children's 72nd Conference on Exceptional Children will be held at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro on October 23-25, 2023. We would like to pay special tribute to each of the educators of excellence and to present the 2023 Educator of Excellence Award to each nominee at the conference. All nominations must be submitted by Friday, September 15, 2023. **ATTACHED**

CORRECTION: The memo has a typographical error. The EOE celebration is MONDAY evening.

Administrative/Supervisory

Exited Graduation Data

ECATS has returned to its normal file schedule and is importing 2023-2024 school data. Please remember that a higher volume of transfers due to BOY is occurring, and record transfers in ECATS could take longer than usual.

The process to update graduation data in ECATS has been completed. Students who have graduated have now been exited in ECATS. Districts may now select the Modified Exit Reason for the 2022-2023 Exit Count and these students will no longer appear active in ECATS. If you find a student has not been exited, please have your ECATS Designee submit a Zendesk ticket.

Registration - September 2023 Regional Director Meeting

Reminder - Registration and locations for our Regional Meetings have been included as part of the "**Revisions to OEC Activities Guide**" section of the WU on 8/23/23. Please register for our upcoming September meetings by September 13, 2023.

Registration and Meeting Information can be found on page 27-28 of the [OEC Activities Guide](#).

MEMO: Eligibility Criteria, Standards, and Procedures for Admissions to the Schools for the Deaf and Blind (2023-2024 School Year)

Consistent with our revised communication descriptions in the *OEC Activities Guide*, a memo noting a change in practice and the use of EC Office Hours is attached. This memo includes the admissions criteria for each of the schools for the deaf and blind, as well as an opportunity to register and submit questions for a special EC Office Hours on this topic. Two dates for the EC Office Hours are included - both will cover the same material and respond to the questions submitted via the question link. The links from the memo are included again here for your convenience. Questions must be submitted by 5:00 pm on Friday, September 8, 2024. **ATTACHED**

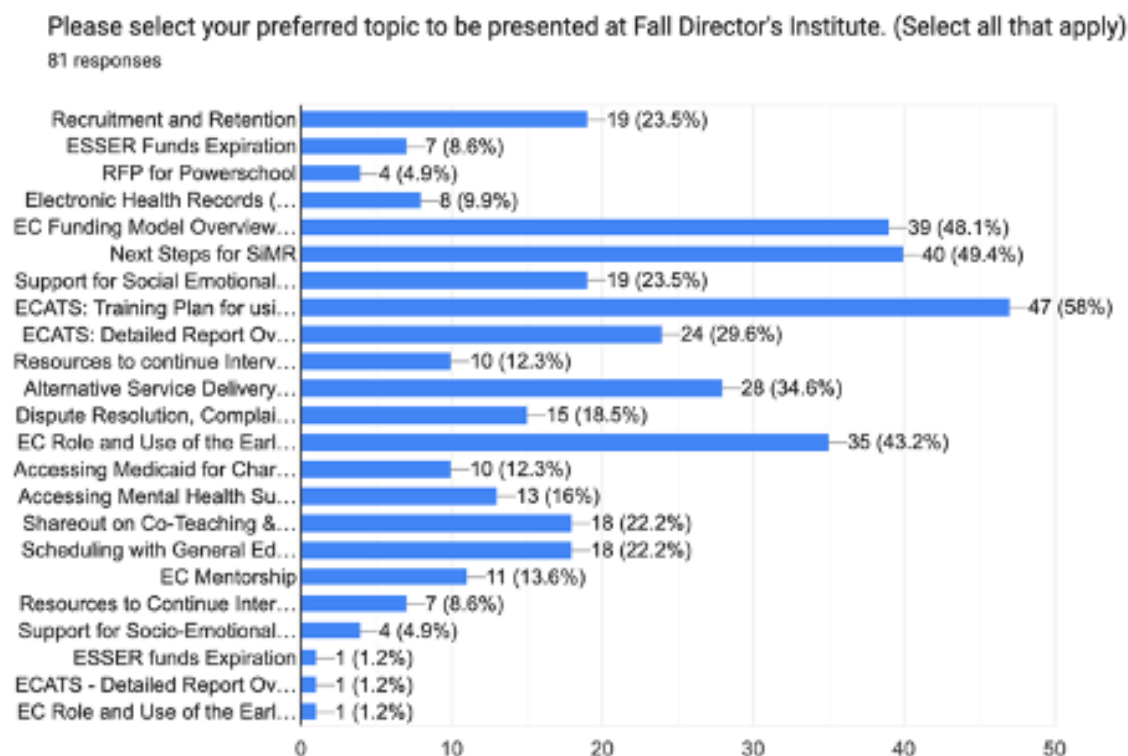
[Registration Link: 9/15/23](#)

[Registration Link: 9/29/23](#)

[Question Link](#)

Director's Institute: Fall Conference

Thank you for participating in the survey regarding the topics recommended for inclusion in the agenda for the Director's Institute held during the Fall Conference. The results have been shared with DAC and have also been included below for your reference. As soon as we are able, we will update the *OEC Activities Guide* with the finalized agenda and specific topics/objectives to be covered during the Director's Institute.



The top five recommendations were:

ECATS: Training Plan for Using Progress Monitoring - 58%

Next Steps for SiMR - 49.4%

EC Funding Model Overview: Maximizing Funding - 48.1%

EC Role and Use of the Early Warning System (EWS) - 43.2%

Alternative Service Delivery Models - 34.6%

Instructional/Related Services/Disability Specific

Assistive Technology Networking Session(s)

The Office of Exceptional Children is excited to announce the 2023/2024 Assistive Technology Networking Sessions. The 2023/2024 Assistive Technology Networking Session will be offered on the following Wednesdays: 8/23/24, 12/6/23, 3/20/24, and 5/8/24 from 3:00 - 4:00 PM. These networking sessions will offer an opportunity for staff across the state to meet in a virtual capacity and share their experiences, troubleshoot challenges, and grow the practice through the shared knowledge of other staff doing similar work across the state. If you have questions, please contact [Josh Barton](#).

- To register for the **Networking Session #1 (8/30/23)**, please use the following link: [Networking Session #1 Registration](#).
- To Register for the **Networking Session #2 (12/6/2023)**, please use the following link: [Networking Session #2 Registration](#) Registration will close on November 15, 2023.
- To Register for the **Networking Session #3 (3/20/2024)**, please use the following link: [Networking Session #3 Registration](#) Registration will close on February 28, 2024.
- To Register for the **Networking Session #2 (5/8/2024)**, please use the following link: [Networking Session #4 Registration](#) Registration will close on April 17, 2024.

Assistive Technology Webinar Series

We are pleased to announce the 2023-2024 [Assistive Technology Webinar Series](#). Each webinar will be offered on two different dates and times to allow for greater opportunities for participation. The sessions will also be recorded for future access. If you have questions, please contact [Josh Barton](#).

ECU Assistive Technology - Professional and Continuing Education Course

During the fall semester, ECU will be offering an Assistive Technology Foundations Course. This 5-week online, Continuing Education course will help participants learn about Assistive Technologies (AT): what it is, where to find it, how to match it to an individual's needs, how to prove it is effective, and avenues for procurement. Participants will engage in a variety of knowledge and skills activities and assessments. More information can be found on the [course website](#). If you have any additional questions contact Dr. Laura King at kinglau@ecu.edu

SLD In Math Regional State Level Professional Learning Sessions

Join us as we discuss specific learning disabilities in math (dyscalculia). This course identifies and explores the math difficulties students demonstrate and how the design and delivery of high-quality core instruction and scientifically research-based intervention can improve student outcomes. Please refer to the flyer for dates, locations, and registration. **ATTACHED**

The State of SLD: Three Part Webinar Series

Thank you for the interest and quick registration for this series. All available spots are filled, and registration is closed at this time. Future opportunities to experience the content will be shared as it becomes available.

Integrated IEP Development

This session focuses on how all IEP team members should collaborate to develop student-centered IEPs aligned to daily routines and the NC Standard Course of Study. Participants will learn how to target student present levels of academic and functional performance (PLAAPF) and goals in order to drive embedded services in each student's least restrictive environment. With an appropriate focus and collaboration, participants will frame IEPs to improve student achievement and function throughout the school day.

Who should attend? EC Teachers, General Education Teachers, Administrators, Related Service Providers.

West: September 11, 2023 | 1:00pm – 4:00pm | Hickory, NC

East: September 15, 2023 | 1:00pm – 4:00pm | Kinston, NC

This will also be a session offered during the EC Conference.

See flyer **ATTACHED**

Statewide Meeting for Related Service Provider Representatives

One lead/representative from *each discipline per PSU*: Audiology, Interpreters, Occupational Therapy, Orientation & Mobility, Physical Therapy, Psychological Services and Speech-Language Pathology.

Eastern location: September 27, 2023 | 10:00am – 3:00pm | Tarboro, NC

Western location: September 29, 2023 | 10:00am – 3:00pm | Lenoir, NC

- [Registration information](#)
- See flyer for additional information **ATTACHED**

Professional Learning Opportunity: Literacy Framework for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

The Literacy Framework for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities professional learning (PL) is aligned with research based in the Science of Reading as well as evidence-based practices for literacy instruction for students with significant cognitive disabilities (SCD) who are accessing the general curriculum through the Extended Content Standards. The format for this course will be a blended model of adult learning which includes three face-to-face days as well as asynchronous assignments. Participants will be expected to complete all face-to-face days and all assignments. Participants will attend days one and two, then break for a

period to apply the content with students with which they work, before returning for day three. 2.4 CEUs will be awarded upon completion of all sessions and activities. Participants must be able to attend all sessions; partial credit will not be awarded. Attendance is limited to the first 30 registrants.

This PL will be held in the Wilmington area. Please use this [Literacy Framework PL link](#) to register. For questions, please contact Matthew Martinez at matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.gov or Nancy Childress at nancy.childress@dpi.nc.gov

Early Childhood (EC|EC)

September 2023 Support for Local Communities: Transitions

Join us virtually for an opportunity to reconvene and collaborate with your local early learning partners to develop/improve transition strategies/plans. We are reconvening local early learning ESSA/transition teams to continue the conversation around transitions, provide general feedback on submitted community transition plans, introduce teams to the state level family engagement coordinator, and provide continuing work sessions for planning and partnering with team members to develop/improve your local community transition plan. The NC Department of Public Instruction, NC Division of Child Development and Early Education, NC Partnership for Children, North Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral Council, NC Early Childhood Foundation, the SERVE Center at UNCG, and EducationCounsel will once again support local communities in collaborating to create/update transition plans that meet requirements for all community partners and create an opportunity for meaningful coordination and collaboration. Learn more and sign up [here](#).

Effective Teacher Practices Supporting the NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development

This series of 11 self-paced modules has been updated and redesigned. If you were not able to attend our brief webinar on Tuesday we have shared all of the details regarding access to the course, requirements, course format, etc. in this [handout](#). Access is available through NCEES for LEA staff. The handout includes a link to guidance for course access for staff who do not traditionally use the NCEES system. **The public access link is now available via the linked handout.**



Nothing new this week.

Revisions to OEC Activities Guide

OEC 2023-2024 Activities Guide

No updates this week.

ICYMI

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Expenditure Training

MOE Training will be offered on September 12th with two opportunities to attend using the link below.

September 12, 2023 9:00am-11:00am

or

September 12, 2023 1:00pm-3:00pm

You only have to attend one session. The Fiscal Consultants will review the requirements for MOE and discuss the allowable exceptions. If you have any questions about this training, please contact your region's IDEA Fiscal Monitoring Consultant.

[Maintenance of Effort Training](#)

2021-2022 FY PSU Annual Determinations

During the COVID pandemic, the OEC posted PSU annual determinations (i.e., Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, etc.) along with the PSUs public report regarding performance on each indicator and whether the PSU met its local targets using the [EC Annual Report Indicators Dashboard](#). While the data regarding the PSU's performance on each indicator target is still publicly reported at this site, the determination will return to an individual notification to each PSU.

The 2021-2022 FY PSU Annual Determination will be emailed to local leadership (Superintendent/Director of Schools/EC) within the next 5-10 business days. Included in this email will be a separate notification regarding compliance with Indicator 11 and Indicator 12 requirements for the same reporting period.

Please review this communication carefully as the OEC is transitioning to combining these notification requirements into a timeline and bundle that is conducive to local improvement planning.

UPDATE: Delivery started on Monday.

Calendar Items/What's Due?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPERVISORY

[OEC 2023-2024 Activities Guide](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

[NCDPI OEC Calendar of Events in List View](#)

[NCDPI Calendar of Events in Calendar View](#)

The calendars of events currently have OEC PD offerings up to October 1, 2023, and meetings from the OEC Activities Guide for the entire year posted at the links listed above.

By October 1, 2023, our goal is to have all PD offerings for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year posted.

Please consider encouraging staff to routinely review the calendar of events for professional learning opportunities or technical assistance related to specialty areas and/or job assignments. We would like to begin streamlining the opportunities listed in the Weekly Update to brief listings rather than the full details currently provided in favor of posting more details within the calendars of events.