



**February 16, 2022**

**News!**

**REMINDER: Psychological and counseling evaluation services:**

Division of Health Benefits (DHB) LEA Policy 10-C was updated on February 1, 2022, to expand the list of practitioners considered qualified by Medicaid/DHB to be reimbursed for psychological and counseling evaluation services.

Section 6.0 *Provider(s) Eligible to Bill for the Procedure, Product, or Service* (page 20) now reads that all providers of psychological and counseling services “shall provide documentation of appropriate training and experience, which qualifies them to work with students in an educational setting. All providers shall function within the scope of practice of their state license and certification.”

**REMINDER: Charter Schools enrolling as Medicaid Providers, pursuant to *SL-2021-180.105 9D.21*:**

On Feb. 3, 2022, DHB posted a bulletin outlining enrollment requirements to begin participation in the LEA reimbursement program. This bulletin should be read carefully to understand DHB requirements and ensure efficient procedures for Charters who participate in Medicaid reimbursement programs. To support charter school representatives as they begin, NCDPI will host:

- Four Medicaid overview webinars. Building administrators, EC coordinators, and school business/finance officers for charters should attend:
  - Region 3 on March 9 @ 3:30-5p  
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m495534e35c7f1a28b37ff07c617b74e3>,  
Password - DHB22
  - Regions 5 & 7 on March 14 @ 3-4:30p  
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=md1645312ffb4ea8d62e2b1d133bd0b76>,  
Password - DHB22
  - Regions 6 & 8 on March 16 @ 3-4:30p  
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m3fa9952326a8ec02cc8ffbb9c7a8c4b9>,  
Password - DHB22
  - Regions 1, 2 & 4 on March 17 @ 3-4:30p  
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m4b6c7afe64b642874442a5a409be9077>,  
Password - DHB22
- Medicaid office hours (open time for anyone to come and ask questions) will held on April 7, 11, 18, 25 from 3-4p at <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/lauren.holahan>  
Please submit your questions for that time [here](#)
- A Medicaid in Education CANVAS course will be available in early March

Meanwhile, charter schools are encouraged to investigate the resources at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/program-and-fiscal-monitoring/medicaid-education>. On-going technical assistance is available from Bill Hussey at [william.hussey@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:william.hussey@dpi.nc.gov) and Laurie Ray [laurie.ray@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:laurie.ray@dpi.nc.gov)



February 16, 2022

<u><b>Items of Interest</b></u>
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**Federal Reporting**

- **Federal Personnel Survey**

The Federal Personnel data collection for the 2021-22 school year will be submitted via a revised survey that combines the Related Service Workforce survey with the federally required personnel data. The link to access the survey is listed below: [https://ncdpi.azure1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_dmBbNr5ycvtPrq6](https://ncdpi.azure1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dmBbNr5ycvtPrq6) .

You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser to access the survey. The due date for the Federal Personnel Survey is by close of business on March 14, 2022. See the memorandum for more information. **[ATTACHED]**

The Federal Personnel Training Resources are now available on the [ECATS Reporting website](#). The training resources include a copy of the PowerPoint presented during the training sessions, as well as the recorded videos and transcripts of the morning and afternoon training sessions. The link to access these training resources is: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/reporting>. You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser to access the training resources.

- **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.

- **Information from Monday Message – 02/14/2022**

[Monday Message 2.14.22.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

**Grant Information**

- **Special Grants**

Special grants, with the status of Chief Administrator Approved, are reviewed monthly after the 15th. (If the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday, the review will start of the next business day after the 15<sup>th</sup>). Notification of review is made through NC CCIP. For your review, the Special Grants Training recording, along with the PowerPoint are available on the EC Website [here](#) under the Special Grants section.

- **IDEA/ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)**

**American Rescue Plan budgets should be submitted as soon as possible.**

The American Rescue Plan funds have been allotted under the following Program Report Codes. The budgets will be submitted the same way as the IDEA budgets. A new application is not required.

**PRC 185 and PRC 186 Budgets and Allotments**

At the current time, those with approved budgets for PRC 185 and PRC 186 have been allotted 75% of their total funds. The additional 25% will be included in a futures allotment. PSUs do not need to make a change in



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**February 16, 2022**

the approved budget. When the additional 25% is allotted, the budget will be reviewed for alignment with the final allotment funds.

**PRC 049 Budgets and Allotments Update**

The PRC049 allotment has been uploaded by NCDPI Financial and Business Services into NCCCIP. The NCDPI official allotment may have resulted in an increase or decrease from the initial planning allotment amount and therefore requires a budget revision. Planning Allotments are tentative allocation of federal funds to PSUs to provide information for budgeting purposes. Any questions regarding this fluctuation should be directed to Financial and Business Services. The LEA EC Director and Finance Officer should collaborate and complete a PRC049 budget amendment to appropriately bring the NC DPI Finance and LEA Budget into alignment. Please ensure the PRC049 Budget and IDEA Section 619 "Use of Funds" remain aligned as well. If you have any questions, please contact Keashia Walker at [Keashia.Walker@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Keashia.Walker@dpi.nc.gov).

**Additional Information from School Business Newsletter – 02/11/22**

[School Business Newsletter 02.11.22](#)

**Free Webinar on Supported Decision Making for Learners with DeafBlindness**

The Southeast DeafBlind Project Webinar Series presents the *Path to Supported Decision Making: Triumphs, Challenges, and Strategies* on February 24, 2022, from 2:30-4:30 PM. Please see the flyer for more details or visit the [registration website](#). [ATTACHED]

**Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

The Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is hosting a workshop entitled, *Autism Spectrum Disorder in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children* on February 22, 2022, from 4:00-5:30 PM via Zoom. See the flyer for information on how to RSVP for this workshop and please share with parents and professionals. [ATTACHED]

**Implementing an Instructional Model in the Evaluation & Identification of Specific Learning Disabilities**

Available research indicates a high level of error and lack of evidence associated with historical cognitive discrepancy methods of SLD identification. From the perspective of prevention and timely intervention, the *NC adopted instructional model* is best supported by existing research and establishes consistency in defining, evaluating, and identifying students with learning disabilities.

In response to requests from school leaders and practitioners for improved access to state level training on this model, this self-paced course is designed for, and made accessible to, all educators. The course content and application exercises are intended to improve educator (both general ed/special ed) understanding of how learning disabilities are defined, as well as allow for practice in applying equitable and effective approaches to evaluation and identification.

February 16, 2022

This publication resource provides additional details and registration for the course. The Facilitation Guide is a resource to provide structure, pacing, and collaborative opportunities when framing the course as a group study session for school teams.

### PSU Web Pages

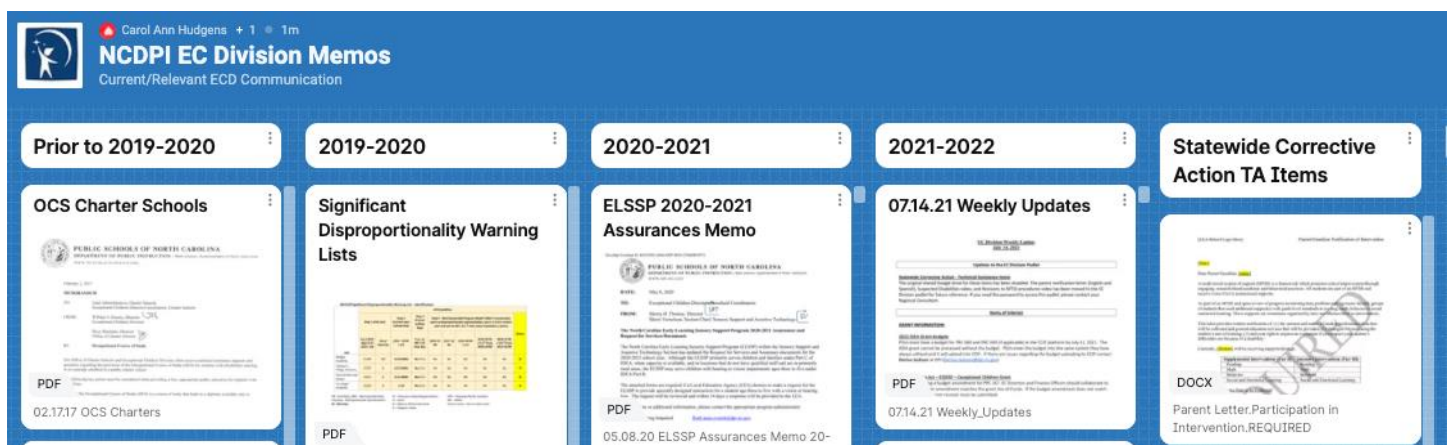
As a follow-up to the EC Director's Webinar, please review your current websites to ensure critical information is publicly facing. Internal practices and procedures accessible to staff through secure internal access rather than publicly posted links is encouraged. Next week's message will include a tip sheet of examples and links to highly recommended or required resources for posting.

### EC Director's Padlet

All editions of the Director's Weekly Message, Memos, and essential statewide corrective action resources are posted to the EC Director's padlet. This is a password protected secure site restricted to EC Directors and is not publicly facing or linked to the EC Division website. If you need the password, please contact your regional consultant. *Given the secure nature of this site, it is requested that directors forward the original communication to appropriate other local leaders rather than provide the password to access the padlet.* Access is monitored and any non-director/charter coordinator will be removed. All padlet items can be downloaded and forwarded if the original communication cannot be located.

Please bookmark the following link to the padlet: <https://bit.ly/ECDMemos>

The screenshot below is the landing page for the padlet.



### Technical Assistance: Special Invitation - Program Compliance Cohort - Private School Services Plans (PSSP)

An overview of the *Tip Sheet: Parentally-Placed Private School Students*, was provided during yesterday's EC Director's Webinar. For EC Directors, without a previously registered Program Compliance Cohort (PCC) participant from the PSU, may request the opportunity to participate in this special invitation session. If you already have a PCC participant, you do not need to request an invitation.



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**February 16, 2022**

The link to request the opportunity to attend can be found in the “February Calendar Items” section of this message. Requests should be submitted by the end of February. Once collected, participants will be provided the virtual participation links and session materials. The session is scheduled for March 23rd for 9:00a-12:00p.

As a reminder, the requirement to coordinate proportionate share, equitable services and private school services plans are unique to traditional public school units. Therefore, PCC participants and EC leaders from charter schools may consider this session as optional; however, are welcome to participate.

The *Tip Sheet: Parentally-Placed Private School Students* is attached to this communication. **[ATTACHED]**

**Educational Interpreter Class at WPCC**

Western Piedmont Community College is offering, *Issues in Educational Interpreting*, in a continuing education format for educational interpreters during the spring B term, March 16-May 9. The class will focus on EIPA essentials, self-analysis, and self-reflection skills. Classes will be taught via Zoom one evening per week and will have online assignments to be completed in a digital learning platform. For more information, please visit the [WPCC webpage](#).

**See the Sound Visual Phonics Spring Class Offerings**

See the Sound Visual Phonics (STS-VP) is a system of 52 unique hand cues and symbols that represent the sounds of English. This visual, kinesthetic tool supports language and literacy development for students in the areas of phonemic awareness, decoding, encoding, and speech/oral language. The following professional development opportunities will be available this spring:

- For those who have taken STS-VP previously, there will be a 2-part class in March and April
  - March Refresher Course: 3/21 & 3/22 from 3:00-4:30 pm
  - April Refresher Course: 4/4 & 4/5 from 3:00-4:30 pm
- For those NEW to STS-VP a six class series is offered:
  - Class 1: 4/27 from 3:30-4:30 pm
  - Classes 2-6: 5/2, 5/4, 5/16, 5/18, 5/25 from 3:00-5:00 pm.

Please watch for the upcoming registration links, as space is limited. To learn more about STS-VP, please visit the website, <http://seethesound.org/>. For questions about the refresher courses or course series for those new to STS-VP, contact Nancy Woytowich, [Nancy.woytowich@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Nancy.woytowich@dpi.nc.gov).

<b>PK EC Items of Interest</b>
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**Parentally-Placed Preschool Students**

Please remember that preschool students may also be placed in private schools/homeschools and may be eligible for private schools services plans (PSSP). As a result of the planned technical assistance for PSSPs for students aged 5-21, previous communication and flowcharts used to help navigate the various placement and service options for preschoolers is being shared again as a companion resource to the new Tip Sheet issued this week.



**February 16, 2022**

Remember preschoolers are included in our Part B Regulations for school-aged children with disabilities ages 3-21. While the transition from Part C to Part B requirements by the 3rd birthday, and the locations of service delivery may be unique to preschoolers, the *NC Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities* still apply.

Resource: *Preschool Programs in Private Schools and Childcare Programs* [ATTACHED]

### **Action Items/What's Due?**

#### **DB Census**

The [Annual NC DeafBlind Census](https://bit.ly/DBCensus) is now open through March 15, 2022. Any PSU with or without eligible students needs to complete the census. Students DO NOT need to be eligible in the category of DeafBlind to be reported. A student with combined vision and hearing loss in any one of the fourteen disability categories may be eligible for the census. Remember, in order for students, teachers, and families to access the resources and partnerships the NC DeafBlind Project offers, a student must be on the census. The survey to complete the census can be found at <https://bit.ly/DBCensus>. Questions about the DeafBlind Census may be directed to Dr. Alan Chase, [alan.chase@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:alan.chase@dpi.nc.gov), or found in the two attachments [ATTACHED].

#### **HB 317 Data Collection Annual Contacts**

The Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section needs to confirm the primary and secondary contacts that will receive the HB 317 Data Collection spreadsheet with the list of students an LEA needs to report for the 2021-2022 school year. Please enter the information in the [Contact Information for the 2021-2022 HB 317 Data Collection](#) by Friday, March 4, 2022.

### **February Calendar Items**

#### **February 16 - February 28, 2022**

- ☐ Submit any clarifying questions or concerns regarding the new Home/Hospital Attendance Code using this link <https://bit.ly/HBAttCode2022>
- ☐ Submit request to participate in the Special Invitation: Program Compliance Cohort - Private School Services Plans (PSSP) on March 23rd using this link: <https://bit.ly/PCCpssp>