



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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**TO:** Directors, Exceptional Children Programs  
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools  
Directors, State-Operated Programs

**FROM:** Sherry H. Thomas, Director *SH7*

**DATE:** October 13, 2021

## 2021 UNDERSTANDING SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES IN MATHEMATICS CAPACITY BUILDING APPLICATION

House Bill 149 requires ongoing professional development opportunities are made available on the identification of, and intervention strategies for, students with dyslexia, dyscalculia, or other specific learning disabilities. The NC Department of Public Instruction's (NC DPI) Exceptional Children Division is inviting currently certified and employed Foundations of Math instructors to complete the requirements for certification as a provider of NC DPI approved training on dyscalculia. Accepted applicants will attend the Understanding Specific Learning Disabilities in Math two-day virtual training on January 11 & 14, 2022.

The benefits to the PSU employing a selected and certified trainer is increased capacity to accomplish the following:

- Identify needed research-based practices and/or instructional methods to increase the percentage of students who respond to core math instruction alone.
- Improve outcomes for students receiving supplemental and intensive intervention, including students with a Specific Learning Disability in math.
- Identify and intervene early with students exhibiting characteristics of mathematics difficulty.
- Facilitate collaborative communication with parents and other community stakeholders around the topic of Specific Learning Disability in mathematics, including dyscalculia.

The attached application describes the commitments of the PSU and the selected trainers in further detail. All interested applicants should complete the attached application in full and return to NC DPI by Friday, November 19, 2021. Applications received after that date may not be considered. The application must be signed by the Exceptional Children Director, and the applicant's direct supervisor, if applicable. All applications will be reviewed by NC DPI staff and applicants will be notified by December 3, 2021 of their acceptance.

Questions regarding the application or training may be directed to Kim Hash, [kim.balcerek-hash@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:kim.balcerek-hash@dpi.nc.gov).

### EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Sherry H. Thomas, Director | [sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov)

6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (984) 236-2550 | Fax (984) 236-2683

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