



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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TO: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Lead Administrators, Charter School Programs

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas *SHT*

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AUTISM FUNDING SUBMISSIONS AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Exceptional Children Division is pleased to provide information on applications for Autism (AU) funds for the 2019-2020 school year. Interested Public School Units (PSUs) are required to complete and submit a [Request for Funding Form](#) by **September 23, 2019**. Please note, this is an extension due to many PSUs missing school days due to Hurricane Dorian. Late submissions may not be considered for funding.

The following professional learning (PL) opportunities are available to all PSUs for the 2019-2020 school year:

Foundations of Autism: Learning Styles and Visual Supports

This three-day workshop is intended for professionals working with students with ASD. This workshop will provide participants with an overview of the learning styles of individuals with ASD to support the planning and provision of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI). Attention will be given to the following evidence-based practices (EBPs): task analysis, reinforcement, antecedent-based interventions, and visual supports. After the first two days, participants will return to their classrooms and complete a project by implementing strategies based on an assessment of their students' learning styles, strengths, and needs. **Participants must attend all three days of training and complete the project component to receive the 2.4 CEUs.** No partial credit will be awarded. Follow this link to access registration: http://bit.ly/LSVS19_20

Foundations of Autism for Early Learners

This three-day workshop is intended for professionals working with preschoolers and young students with ASD. Participants will be provided with an overview of the learning styles/characteristics of individuals with ASD to support the planning and provision of SDI. Attention will be given to embedding EBPs into a center-based instructional program to increase play, language and communication, and self-help skills. After the first two days, participants will return to their classrooms and complete a project by implementing strategies based on an assessment of their students' learning styles, strengths, and needs. **Participants must attend all three days of training and complete the project component to receive the 2.0 CEUs.** No partial credit will be awarded. Please follow this link to access registration: <http://bit.ly/Earlylearners>

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Supporting Students with ASD in the General Education Setting

These one-day workshops are intended for professionals working with students with 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 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. Participants will receive .6 CEUs upon completion of the workshop. Content is focused on grade-level appropriate academic instruction; therefore, participants should register for the session that corresponds to their work setting. Please follow these links to access registration:

Elementary: <http://bit.ly/ElementaryGenEd>

Middle and High School: <http://bit.ly/SecondaryGenEd>

Evidence-Based Practices to Support Effective Instruction

This one-day workshop is intended for professionals working with students with ASD who follow the Extended Content Standards. Effective systematic instruction for students with ASD and other developmental disabilities often requires the application of several EBPs, including but not limited to task analysis, discrete trial teaching, reinforcement, and prompting. This workshop will provide training to help teachers improve their use of these strategies in individual, small group, and large group instruction. This professional learning opportunity is a hybrid with one day face-to-face, a webinar, and required submission of a video project. **Participants must complete all components to receive the 1.2 CEUs.** No partial credit will be awarded. Please follow this link to access registration: <http://bit.ly/DTTandEBPs>

The following PL opportunities are available to all PSUs who receive funding at the Team Support level for the 2019-2020 school year:

Fall Regional Autism Support Team Meeting

This one-day meeting is required for PSUs who receive AU funding at the Team Support level. The primary content of the meeting is the development of structures and processes to build capacity for the provision of services to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The meeting will also include updates from the NCDPI Autism Team and opportunities to network with other Autism Support Teams in the region. The meeting will be held from 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Participants will receive .5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Follow this link to access registration: <http://bit.ly/Fallteammeeting>

Questions regarding the application for funding or these professional learning opportunities should be emailed to ncauteam@gmail.com.