

EC Division Weekly Update
March 24, 2021

Updates to the EC Division Padlet

No items this week

Items of Interest

PSA: NC Virtual Public Schools- Social Studies

As you may be aware, new Social Studies Essential Standards were approved at the February State Board meeting. Since that time, NC Virtual has hired a team of subject matter experts to outline and build the new course content. Since the standards were approved in February, NC Virtual is working on a condensed development schedule. **While the new course, Blended The Founding Principles of the United States and North Carolina: Civic Literacy, will be available to offer Fall 2021, the entire course content will not be available at the start of the semester in August.** All content will be finalized in time for students to complete without getting behind pace, but modules may be released on a one at a time basis. Co-teachers will have a course outline and syllabus available, so they know what is to come and can plan accordingly. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your continued partnership.

ECATS: PaperClip

In response to questions regarding the annual PaperClip allocation, the EC Division is providing the attached resource provided by PCG. This document provides information regarding the standard report available to monitor local usage, describes the annual allocation and provides an approximation of pages to bytes.

(ATTACHED)

ECATS: AU Worksheet

The AU worksheet will be released into ECATS on Thursday evening (3/25) and visible to users on Friday morning (3/26). This worksheet reflects the policy changes that went into effect on January 1, 2020.

REMINDER: EC Office Hours

Topic: Statewide Corrective Action - General Monthly Check-In (Optional)

Friday, March 26, 2021 9:30am-10:30am

Join [Here](#) -or- <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens>

Hosted by: Carol Ann Hudgens, EC Division and IABS Staff

PRC 29 Funding Flexibility

Please see the memo regarding approved flexibility for the current PRC 29 funds. **(ATTACHED)**

Certified Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist for People with Visual Impairments (CATIS)

Last fall, NC Central University (NCCU) launched a program for a Certified Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist for People with Visual Impairments (CATIS). As a result, six candidates will be concluding classes this term or in the fall and will be seeking Internship placements. NCCU is seeking LEAs who can host a CATIS intern.

There are approximately 100 CATIS in the nation with five currently residing in NC. This class will push NC to 11 CATIS, and in the #2 spot nationally behind Florida at 19. As one of only four programs in the country with a CATIS program, NCCU, and NC, could take on a leadership role in the expansion of quality services to students with Visual Impairments in the domain of Assistive Technology.

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If your LEA is interested in receiving more information about hosting a CATIS intern or the CATIS program in general, please contact:

Dr. Sean Tikkun
Phone: 919.530.7677
Email: stikkun@nccu.edu

Social Studies Standards for the North Carolina Extended Content Standards

The NCDPI Exceptional Children Division would like to invite interested individuals to join Stakeholder groups to develop Social Studies Standards for the North Carolina Extended Content Standards. The Stakeholder groups will examine the newly passed Social Studies Standards for the Standard Course of Study and create alternate achievement standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The Social Studies Standard Course of Study standards can be found on this [link](#). If interested, please complete this [google form](#) by March 29, 2021.

HB 317 Data Collection

The SSAT section is generating the survey links for the HB 317 data collection for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. All student lists, password info, and survey links will be sent to you and your secondary contact by March 31, 2021. If you have not received the information by that time, please reach out to Tom Page, thomas.page@dpi.nc.gov.

If you still need to update your primary and secondary contact information for the HB317 data collection, please do so at this link: <https://bit.ly/HB317contacts>

SLD Fact Sheets

As part of the statewide corrective action, the series of SLD Fact Sheets, posted on the EC Division website under Disability Resources, will be reviewed and revised, if appropriate, over the next ten business days. Therefore, the fact sheets will not be accessible on the website during this time. A courtesy alert will be provided in the weekly message when these items have been reposted.

Weekly Tips: Secondary Transition

See this week's Secondary Transition Tips Sheet document. **(ATTACHED)**

Spring Institute

We are excited to announce the Exceptional Children's Spring Institute. Registration for April and May sessions will open this Friday, March 24th. Information and registration links for the sessions can be found on the EC Spring Institute [SMORE](#). This Institute is open to Directors only, however, you can invite up to 2 additional participants. **Registration for all sessions will close at noon on April 7, 2021.** After registration closes, you will receive information on how to join each session.

Sessions will begin at 3:30pm and will be up to 90 minutes in length. Sessions will *only* be offered synchronously. CEU's will be provided upon completion of the evaluation at the conclusion of each session.

2021-2022 IDEA Grant Training

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Two training sessions will be offered: Basic Overview and a Deeper Dive (**See descriptions below**). Your PSU is **only** required to attend **one** session (either the brief or in-depth session) based on the training level needed.

IDEA Grant Submission Brief Overview - April 13th (2 sessions)

This IDEA grant training is an overview of the submission process of the IDEA grant within NC CCIP. It will highlight changes and focus on components for general submission of the grant. There will be two sessions offered, you only have to attend one.

Please click on the link of the session you would like to attend and register no later than, Friday, April 9th.

Session 1: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1BTMUsgLCS75IQS

Session 2: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3J13wVY27BZ0TOu

IDEA Grant Submission In-Depth Session

This IDEA grant training will be a deeper dive into the process of submitting the IDEA grant within NC CCIP. This training is a step-by-step information session on completing each section of the IDEA grant. There are two sessions for this training, but you only have to attend one. Please click on the link below for the session you would like to attend and register.

April 15th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Please register for this session no later than, Wednesday, April 13th.

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eEsiNrN0SzUKItw

April 20th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Please register for this session no later than, Friday, April 16th.

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5bci9Yb7O7ABqe2

****Grant window opens on May 1, 2021 and will close on May, 31, 2021**

Special Grants training will be held at a later date. Additional information will be provided.

Schedule for April 2021 Periodic Child Count

NC 1505-3.4 (Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities) requires each local education agency (LEA) to certify Exceptional Children child counts to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. These child counts are taken on December 1 and April 1 of each year. The December 1 child count is used to generate federal funds and the April 1 child count is used for state funding purposes.

The submission schedule is as follows:

LEA	Correction and Certification Window
Initial Submission from all LEAs and all Charter Schools and SOPs	4/01/2021
Deadline for Certification Status	4/23/2021

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EC Directors may run the 2021 child count, prior to submission, for errors such as duplicate records, incorrect age, grade, setting and disability. Please remember that when certifying the Child Count, the EC Director is assuring that all data submitted is accurate.

The April child count will no longer verify that a reevaluation is complete in order to include a record on the count. However, please be aware that compliance requires that reevaluations be completed in a timely manner. Lapses in reevaluation timelines will be monitored by compliance staff. The exception to the child count requirement for reevaluation is for students who have a Developmental Delay and are 8 at the time of count. These records will be caught in the Exceptions tab and must be excluded from the count if a reevaluation has not been completed.

According to the State Auditors, Directors of Exceptional Children Programs and Lead Administrators of Charter schools must certify the child count data. For this to occur, Directors of Exceptional Children Programs must use their “username” and “password” to log into ECATS to verify and certify the child count data. If the EC Director does not certify the count, a signed and scanned verification form must be submitted to Kelley Blas at kelley.blas@dpi.nc.gov. All errors must be corrected, and all LEAs must certify their submissions no later than April 23, 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this vital transfer of information. If you have questions regarding child count procedures or technical issues while submitting the child count, please contact ZenDesk.

PK EC Items of Interest

No items this week.

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION

No items this week.