

EC Division Weekly Update
May 12, 2021

Updates to the EC Division Padlet

Items of Interest

NC SIP All Leaders Course

NC SIP All Leaders Overview of *Reading Research to Classroom Practice* and *Foundations of Math* Canvas course is now open for registration. This online, self-paced, overview course engages leaders in activities to better understand what their teachers learn through completing the full courses. Leaders also are provided tools to support their staff in implementation of evidence-based practices. See the flyer for information.

(ATTACHED)

Alternate Assessment Webinar

The EC Division has published the *1.0 Percent Participation in the Alternate Assessment Webinar* on the Exceptional Children Webpage. Click the link below;

[Extended Content Standards Support Tools — Exceptional Children \(ncpublicschools.gov\)](#)

For additional information, contact Matthew Martinez at Matthew.Martinez@dpi.nc.gov

Learning Ally's Summer Reading Together Program

Students who currently have an account with the Learning Ally resource are welcome to engage in the *Summer Reading Together* program. The program provides reading encouragement and opportunity for continued progress during the summer break. All information, to include resources, certificates, a progress tracking calendar, and the chance to win prizes, can be found on the [Summer Reading Together](#) site. The program runs from June 1 through August 31, 2021. Teachers can provide selections to students' bookshelves for summer reading. Print resources that can be shared with families to support student efforts can be found [here](#). Students will need their Learning Ally login information to access *Summer Reading Together*.

Maintenance of Effort

The **Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)** has not published specific guidance on **CARES or ESSER** funds. However, those funds are federal funds and **cannot** be counted as state or local funds **for Maintenance of Effort**. PSUs **must maintain** their **level of spending using local or state and local funds** and are advised to take advantage of the **current options for exceptions (as described in 34 CFR §300.204) and/or the MOE adjustment (as described in 34 CFR §300.205)**, if possible, to help meet MOE.

IDEA Grant

- The Allotment Section has loaded FY22 Federal Planning allotments for PRC: 049, 060, and 070 into the BAAS System.
- The planning allotments are based on last year's allotment amounts.
 - Utilize that information to complete and submit both grants and budgets (as communicated in the grant training sessions).
 - Final allotment amounts will be communicated when received. If received after the grant closes on **May 31, 2021** an amendment may be done to update grants (if content in Use of Funds change) and budgets at that time.
 - This should not cause a delay in meeting the grant closing deadline of **May 31, 2021**.

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- Grants will be processed and reviewed as they are received to expedite the process.
- Please work to adhere to the grant closure deadline to avoid delay in the processing of the applications which further delays all funding allocations.

***To avoid delay with your 611 and 619 grant applications, all prior year monitoring corrective action, Maintenance of Effort (MOE) and submission of the NC Preschool Data Collections Survey requirements must be satisfied.**

IDEA Grant Training

The Brief Overview and the In-Depth Sessions are available for your convenience. The PowerPoint is available as well. The recordings for the Disproportionality and the 619 Presentations are embedded in the PowerPoint. Link: [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA, Part B\) — Exceptional Children \(ncpublicschools.gov\)](https://ncpublicschools.gov/individuals-with-disabilities-education-act-idea-part-b)

Use this password for the Brief Overview Recording: RrypQ9kZ

Use this password for the In-Depth Session Recording: Hw5kUbQh

****For technical support for any EC Grant system, please use the Qualtrics link and complete the survey. Someone will contact you within 24 hours.**

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8ANW2Pc6WpOCm0Z

For **611 IDEA Grant** questions, please **contact** your **Regional Coordinator**.

For the **611 IDEA Grant** Fiscal questions or **Special Grants**, please contact:

Elizabeth Millen, Elizabeth.millen@dpi.nc.gov

Adam Parent, Adam.parent@dpi.nc.gov

For the **619 IDEA Grant** questions, please contact:

Keashia Walker, Keashia.Walker@dpi.nc.gov

Dawn Meskil, Dawn.meskil@dpi.nc.gov

Dates/Reminders

- **May 17, 2021** is the **final date** for all **Special Grant** submissions.
- **Indicator 14** Survey Opens **May 17th** and closes **September 17th**. (**Selected Directors/Coordinators only**)
- **Indicator 7** Opens **August 2nd** and closes **August 20th, 2021**.
- **Exit Count** opens **September 15th** and closes **September 30th**.
- **Indicator 11 & 12** opens **October 1st** and closes **October 29th**.

For **questions** concerning **Indicators & Exit Count**, please contact: Jennifer Sims, Jennifer.Sims@dpi.nc.gov
Khalilah O’Farrow-Boulware, Khalilah.OFarrow@dpi.nc.gov.

COVID Funding Information

- EC Division only manages funds that are related to EC students allocated through PRCs 132 and 167.
- PRC 167 - If your grant and budget were approved and you have not received funds, connect with your finance officer and have them check the Allotment System. It should provide the information.

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- To update or amend a grant/request and/or budget due to recovery services, missed services, compensatory services, etc. – If your original grant and budget was approved, you would proceed as you would with any other amendment.
- Data to use to justify the amendment, you should utilize the data collected through your regular (during Non-COVID times) procedures the district uses to progress monitor and document services (ex. to determine IEP goal progress, track missed services due to teacher shortage, inform instruction, etc.) regardless of whether it is missed services, future services etc.
- For American Rescue Plan (see p. 62 in COVID Allotment Policy Manual) and other COVID related funds not managed through the EC Division. You should address these questions to your finance officers and superintendents for the ARP funds. As well as, any other COVID funds that were allocated directly to the PSUs to be part of the planning and ensure EC students are represented in the plans for the use of funds.
- Please see link for COVID funding information: [Financial and Business Services | NC DPI](#)

Lead Audiology Meeting

There will be a virtual related services meeting for Audiologists on **Tuesday, June 1, 2021**, from **1:00-4:00 pm**. Please share the link to the registration form with your employed or contracted audiologist or other representative: <http://bit.ly/EdAudSpring2021>

Registration will close on **May 25, 2021**. A confirmation email will be sent to each participant after registration closes with information on how to connect to the virtual meeting.

Please note this announcement will not be shared on the public audiology listserv to ensure that only employed or contracted audiologists or another designated representative in your PSU may register and attend.

Beginning Teacher Cohort for Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The Regional Consultants for Deaf and Hard of Hearing under the Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section are developing an ongoing cohort of support for beginning Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing starting in the 2021-22 school year. In order to participate, teachers need to be serving students who are deaf or hard of hearing and be in Beginning Teacher Status (years 1-3). If you have Teacher(s) of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing within your district who would be interested in joining this cohort, please email Virginia Madorin at virginia.madorin@dpi.nc.gov.

PK EC Items of Interest

ELN Equity and Cultural Responsiveness Professional Development Series

The NC Early Learning Network (NC-ELN) project is pleased to announce a new series of professional learning centered on addressing racial equity and culturally responsive practices in early childhood. This two-session series will address four key goal areas of Identity, Equity, Diversity and Action. Within the sessions there will be opportunities for self-reflection, looking at current teaching practices, and identifying culturally responsive practices in working with children and their families.

The first session was held on March 17th. The second session in the series is being offered on May 19th, 2021 from 3:00-4:30 pm. If you previously registered for session 1, you are automatically registered for the second session. If you were unable to attend the first session, you may register for the second session and watch the

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recording of the first session. The recording for this session can be accessed at this link:
<https://nceln.fpg.unc.edu/node/4188>

This series is open to all early childhood educators: coordinators, teachers, teacher assistants, related service providers. We are excited to offer this professional learning opportunity and hope you can join us. CEUs will be provided within 30 days of the session date.

If you have not previously registered for the series, please register for the second session at this link:
https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6znrLqPIRYGAjiu. Log-in information will be provided at the time of registration.

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION
