



Weekly Update
May 24, 2023

General Information

No items this week

Administrative/Supervisory

NC CASE, in collaboration with NCDPI EC Division and DAC, is excited to offer a mentoring program for new Directors.

This program pairs new Directors with more experienced Directors on an informal basis for the purpose of providing one-on-one guidance and advice to the newer Directors (mentees). An experienced Director will volunteer to serve as a mentor to a less experienced Director for at least a period of one year, during which time the mentor and mentee are encouraged to communicate on a regular basis for discussions on mutually agreed topics.

The mentor will be encouraged to share experiences, feedback, and provide insights related to career guidance or career advancement. The mentee should enter into the mentor relationship with the goal of career enhancement and professional development.

Please complete the following survey if you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee. If you are unsure if you previously completed the survey, please complete it again.

https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d4J5Q4y60MaOYdg

IDEA Grant Planning Allotments

IDEA Grant Planning Allotments have been loaded into NCCCIP. These planning allotments can be found in two places in NCCCIP, the Allotments page or on the Private School page. Now that planning allotments have been released you are able to change your grant application to draft completed status. The deadline for completion of the IDEA Grant is May 31, 2023. Please contact your EC Regional Coordinator or IDEA Fiscal Monitor with any questions.

Federal Reporting Office Hours: June

The Federal Reporting Office Hours sessions, which occur on the first Wednesday of each month, will be canceled for the month of June. The Federal Reporting Office Hours sessions will resume on the first Wednesday in July. Please contact Khalilah O'Farrow-Boulware at khalilah.ofarrow@dpi.nc.gov if you have any questions.

Indicator 7

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes in ECATS. The Indicator 7 count captures the percent of preschool students with IEPs who demonstrate improved childhood outcomes.



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The Indicator 7 correction and certification schedule is as follows:

Indicator 7 Correction and Certification Schedule	
Indicator 7 opens for all Public-School Units	8/1/2023
Deadline for Certification Status	8/18/2023

[Monday Message 5.22.23.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

Instructional/Related Services/Disability Specific

NEW Guidance Document: [Intellectual Disabilities: Evaluation, Identification and Instructional Programming – Policy Requirements and Best Practice Considerations](#). This newly developed guidance offers IEP evaluation teams expanded guidance to support alignment with NC Policy requirements, while also ensuring best practices in their implementation of effective evaluation, identification and instructional programming practices for students having, or suspected of having, intellectual disabilities. A companion recording is embedded into the document to provide teams with further explanation of the content included in the document.

EESD Webinar Session 12-CANCELED

Session 12 of the Educational Equity and Significant Disproportionality monthly webinar series scheduled for **Thursday, May 25** has been **canceled**. We look forward to sharing a new series in August.

Early Childhood

REMINDER: Annual Preschool Exceptional Children Data Collection Survey

Each traditional LEA is expected to complete the Annual Preschool Data Collection Survey prior to submitting the IDEA grant application. Please confirm the survey has been submitted by checking the appropriate box with the Preschool (619) IDEA grant application.

Qualtrics survey submission link: https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5d8vEiLSyjd0Ram

PDF version: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1he4vKnxFihja6ZHETJZuhPsnvO9QlxiM/view?usp=share_link



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OEL 2022-2023 Annual Preschool Planning Survey

The Office of Early Learning is working diligently to be more responsive in our communication with all preschool partners and to improve the quality of preschool data. It is time once again to complete the annual preschool survey.

The [2023-2024 Preschool Survey](#) serves these purposes:

- To gather contact information for all LEA preschool contacts to ensure that we are sending the right information to the partners who need it (Title I Preschool, Preschool EC, NC Pre-K, CTE Preschool, Developmental Day, Teaching Strategies GOLD® administrator).
- To determine the projected number of Teaching Strategies GOLD® portfolios that NCDPI will fund for the 2023-2024 school year.
- To better understand the composition of preschool in each LEA

Please work together with your LEA preschool colleagues to submit ONE [survey](#) by May 31, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact [Dan Tetreault](#) or [Dawn Meskil](#).

OEL 2023-2024 Teaching Strategies GOLD® requirements for LEA operated preschool classrooms

We thank you for your continued support and implementation of Teaching Strategies GOLD® for LEA operated and Developmental Day preschool classrooms. Teaching Strategies GOLD® is an observation-based, ongoing, formative assessment which occurs during the natural routines of the school day. Documentation gathered helps teachers identify students' learning in real time and helps personalize next steps for instruction. Thus, Teaching Strategies GOLD® is the tool which supports a process rather than an instrument to be administered. Please see the attached memo for the 2023-2024 formative assessment requirements. **(ATTACHED)**

DHHS Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) Updates

Our partners at DCDEE have recently released several updates that impact early childhood programs offered within LEAs. A summary of relevant updates is offered below.

DCDEE Health and Safety Guidance

All licensed preschool programs in public schools and private sites are required to follow the health and safety guidance outlined in the [ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit](#).

DCDEE Early Childhood/Child Development (EC/CD) and School Age (SA) Degree in the Field Revisions

DCDEE is excited to announce updates to the list of degrees counted as "degree in the field" for both early childhood/child development (EC/CD) and school age (SA). Effective Monday, May 8, 2023. **(ATTACHED)**

DCDEE Child Care Rule .3013 - NC Pre-K Teacher Assistant Education and Credentials

DCDEE recognizes that the requirements outlined in [Child Care Rule .3013](#) may have caused programs additional burden during a time when obtaining qualified staff has been challenging for everyone. In an effort to support NC Pre-K programs across the state, DCDEE will allow additional flexibility to help



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educators and programs transition into rule .3013. **These flexibilities apply to both new hires and existing staff.**

DCDEE strongly encourages NC Pre-K Teacher Assistants to make every effort to meet the requirements of rule .3013. as these specific flexibilities will expire June 2024.

- Individuals who have received a qualifying letter from our Workforce Education Unit certifying them as a Lead Teacher, may qualify to serve as an NC Pre-K Teacher Assistant
 - If a Teacher Assistant has at least 9 EC credit hours on their qualifying letter, they will qualify as an NC Pre-K teacher Assistant for the 2023-2024 program year.
 - If a Teacher Assistant has less than 9 EC credit hours on their qualifying letter, they must enroll in approved EC courses and complete 9 EC credit hours by the end of the 2023-2024 program year.
 - These courses must be completed by the spring of 2024 in order to count for the 2023-2024 program year.
- If a Teacher Assistant ***does not meet the aforementioned flexibilities, nor do they currently hold a CDA nor hold or are working towards an Associate Degree***, they must enroll in CDA courses immediately in order to qualify as an NC Pre-K Teacher Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year. CDA must be completed by the end of the 2023-2024 program year.

Teacher Assistants that do not meet the requirements of rule .3013 will not be approved to serve in the 2024-2025 school year.

ICYMI

NCATP/NCDPI Assistive Technology Expo 2023

NCATP and NCDPI are pleased to announce the return of the in person AT expo for the 2023-2024 school year. This expo will be held at the McKimmon Conference and Training Center at NC State in Raleigh, NC on October 5, 2023. This day-long event has a theme of *A Day in the life with AT* and will feature presentations throughout the day in addition to a vendor hall. Registration is required to attend: [2023 AT Expo Registration](#). Additional information can be found at [2023 AT Expo Info](#) and on the 2023 AT Expo Flyer (**ATTACHED**).

NCATP/NCDPI Assistive Technology Expo 2023 Call for Proposals

NCATP and NCDPI are seeking applications for presenters for the 2023 AT expo. The theme for the day is: *A Day in the Life with AT*. This will be the first year that the Expo will return to an in person event with live streaming being offered for the presentations held throughout the day. If you have a topic that you feel would be relevant to the field, please consider completing an application for consideration to fill one of the sessions during the day. The Expo is being held at the McKimmon Conference and Training Center at NC State in Raleigh, NC on October 5, 2023 and applications are due by June 1, 2023. If interested, please use the Call for Proposals AT Expo 2023 application document (**ATTACHED**)



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Calendar Items/What's Due?		
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| • | May 31 | Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment Training
Virtual: 9:00am – 4:00pm |
| • | May 31 | IDEA Grant must be in <i>Draft Completed</i> status |
| • | June 1 | Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment Training
Virtual: 9:00am – 4:00pm |
| • | July 1 | PRC029 Behavior Support Grant
Final Submission-COB |
| • | July 1 | PRC 118 Autism
Request for funding due |
| • | July 15 | Educational Interpreter / Transliterator
Training Hours Report Due |