



EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
NC Department of Public Instruction

Parent and Family Updates

[Exceptional Children | NC DPI](#)

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Office of Exceptional Children website contains resources for parents, teachers, and administrators.

www.dpi.nc.gov

May 2024

Spotlight on: Exceptional Children's Assistance Center

Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) is a free resource for parents, families, and professionals throughout the state. ECAC works with families of children and youth with disabilities from birth to 26 to help parents participate effectively in their child's education and development.

ECAC is North Carolina's Parent Training and Information (PTI) Center, a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). They provide trainings about all things related to the special education process for parents and professionals, provide support to young adults with disabilities to become self-advocates and leaders, and partner with professionals and policymakers to improve outcomes for all children with disabilities.

ECAC's team of parent educators help parents communicate and work with their school teams. All parent educators are parents to a child with a disability and know what it's like to go through this process on a technical and personal level.

Please visit [ECAC's website](#) to learn more about their work, view the calendar of available webinars, live and recorded, and browse their resources page for useful information and tools. Trainings and resources are available in English and Spanish.

Office of Exceptional Children Resources

Parents and families can find resources including the forms used during Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, information about parent rights and dispute resolution, the Council on Educational Services for Exceptional

Children, and local, state, and national resources. Visit the [Parent Resources page](#) at the Office of Exceptional Children.

If you have concerns about your child's education or working with your school team, please contact Johanna Lynch, Parent Liaison, at Johanna.Lynch@dpi.nc.gov.

Agencies of Interest:

[Office of Special Education Programs](#) (U.S. Department of Education)
[N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)

Upcoming Events:

[Autism Society of North Carolina](#)

[Autism Speaks](#)

[The Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education](#)

[Exceptional Children's Assistance Center](#)

[Family Support Network](#)

[National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)

[NC ABLE](#)

[NC Down Syndrome Alliance](#)

[Special Olympics North Carolina](#)

[Triangle Disability & Autism Services](#)

Do you have an event you would like to share with the community? Please email with information.

Contact information:

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Historical Newsletters can be found in the [Parent Newsletter Google Folder](#)