




PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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August 12, 2014

To: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

From: William J. Hussey, Director 
Exceptional Children Division

Re: **Guidance for Course Code FAQs**

This memo serves as guidance for some of the most frequently asked course code questions.

There are new 5th digit course code designations for Occupational Course of Study (OCS) and Extended Content Standards (ECS).

All OCS courses are indicated by the 5th digit character "B", and all ECS courses are indicated by the 5th digit character "A". The OCS and ECS wording has been removed from course titles, as per Section 504 and ADA regulations; and, will be removed from the policy document and website.

The OCS course codes are located within the 9210B through 9248B series of course numbers. Typically, all high school students on the ECS will have course codes within the 9310A through 9343A series of course numbers. However, it may be appropriate for students on the ECS to participate in a few courses within the OCS series, for example: the Occupational Preparation I, II, III, & IV courses may be appropriate for some students and are now an option available with the 5th digit character "A". These courses may be used as elective options for students on the ECS as they are not required courses for the graduation certificate.

The following course titles are no longer available: Self-Contained and Individual Curriculum.

A series of K-8 content courses, with the 5th digit character "A", is now available for students on the ECS. These are the content area courses (ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science) for students on the ECS and are to be used in the place of the Self-Contained option. Schedules for students on the ECS should reflect the participation in the content area courses during their school day, using the ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science K-8 course codes with the 5th digit character "A". Please note that the NCEXTEND1 will be associated with the appropriate course by the "A" character designation.

There are Locally Developed and Special Interest Elective course options for ELA (1025, 1027, 1028 & 1029), Math (2800), Social Studies (4800), and Science (3020) that may be used in the place of the Individual Curriculum option to address the specially designed instruction in

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specific content areas for high school students with disabilities (SWD). For example: students in need of additional reading instruction may be scheduled for 10282X0 (Special Interest Eng-Reading) for the block in which their specially designed reading instruction takes place. There are Special Interest Topic (9610) course options at the elementary, middle, and high school levels that may be used to address additional specially designed instruction needs for SWD, such as Social Skills and Career Lab classes. Please note that these courses are designated by the 5th digit character "2" and yield an elective credit at the high school level.

CTE courses no longer have 5th digit designations of "0" and "1".

All CTE course codes are standard with the 5th digit character "2" designation. PowerSchool will include a flag to indicate students on the OCS and ECS. This will allow schools to identify students participating in the teacher made CTE assessment option. Until the flag is made available, districts may choose to schedule students in sections within a course to identify the students participating in the teacher made CTE assessment.

Pre-K

PowerSchool requires a code to enter Pre-K student information in the database. The code for all Pre-K students is **99322P0**. This code will be available for use after August 25, 2014.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Beverly Colwell (919-807-3930 or Beverly.Colwell@dpi.nc.gov).

WJH/DM/BC