When students transfer to NC from another state/country with an IEP or other eligibility documentation, teams must meet to determine how to provide comparable services while reviewing existing data, gathering new data/testing, and making the determination of eligibility under NC Guidelines. The Comparable Services Plan (CSP) Document is used to enter an out of state eligibility information into ECATS and should be finalized first in the process. Teams should discuss how the comparable services are going to be implemented and document on the Prior Written Notice (PWN) at the initial referral meeting. An IEP and Consent for Services are not required until NC Eligibility is established.

If a student returns to NC after moving to another state, policy requires teams to complete a new initial referral for NC Eligibility. Completing the CSP document will clear the previous eligibility information so that the 90-day timeline can be calculated correctly. *It is very important to complete/finalize the CSP document before finalizing the Referral in ECATS for Indicator 11 calculations.*

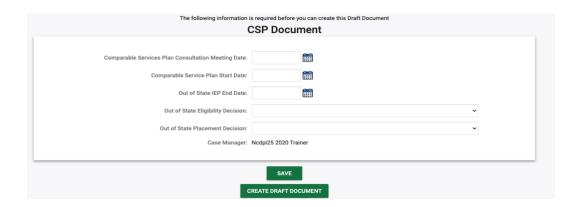
★ This does not require teams to request new evaluations. Teams should review any/all existing evaluations and determine if anything is needed.

The CSP document allows a student with a current out-of-state IEP to be counted on child count if the out of state/country IEP is current on December 1/April 1 <u>and</u> the referral is within the 90-day timeline. **Remember** Out-of-State students that were eligible in another state arrive in NC with a suspected disability. If the initial referral timeline goes over 90-days and eligibility in NC has not been determined with a current NC IEP in place (if eligible with parent consent for services provided), the student cannot be counted on child count.

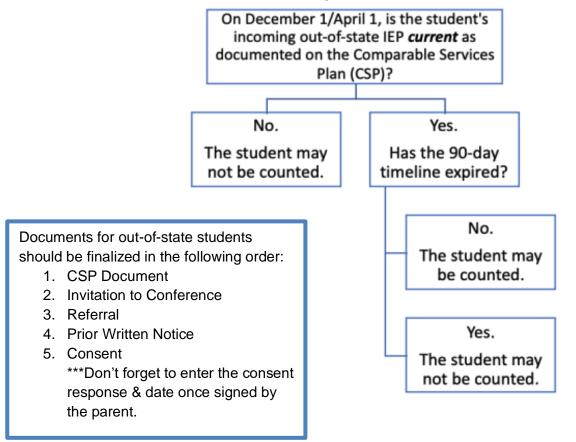
To complete the CSP Document, you will need:

- Comparable Services Plan Consultation Meeting Date
 - The date the current IEP is obtained and reviewed from the sending state/country.
- Comparable Service Plan Start Date
 - The same date as the referral received by school date¹ and the date the school begins to provide comparable services based upon obtained current IEP.
- Out-of-State IEP End Date
 - The End date of the out of state/country IEP.
- Out-of-State Eligibility Decision
 - The eligibility category documented on the out of state/country IEP.
- Out-of-State Placement Decision
 - The placement is based upon the LRE of the out of state/country IEP.

¹ The Referral Received by School Date for students moving into NC from out of state, is the date the school is notified the student has a disability. This may be when the parent completes the registration paperwork and indicates the student has an IEP from the previous state. If the parent does not indicate the student has an IEP at the time of registration, and once the school receives the records from the previous state that includes eligibility information and/or an IEP (date of discovery).



Child Count: Out-of-State Transfers/Comparable Service Plan/Initial Timeline



Summary

A Comparable Service Plan in ECATS:	
IS	IS NOT
A mechanism for LEAs to be able to receive funding for students being provided comparable services when an	- A temporary NC IEP.

incoming, out of state/country IEP is current. (This is a provision under NC State Statute not Federal Regulations.)	
 Intended to support PSUs with tracking incoming, previously determined EC- eligible students. 	 A holding status intended to delay or deny the initial referral process.