



ECATS Project Kick-off

April 6, 2017



NC
Department of
Public
Instruction

PCG | *Education*

Agenda

- Introductions
- ECATS RFP History
- ECATS Goals
- Background & Experience
- ECATS Services
- ECATS Rollout Strategy
- Project Management Methodology & Approach

BREAK

- Development Methodology
- Development Life Cycle
- Project Integration & Data Flow
- Risk Mitigation & Key Decisions
- Upcoming Next Steps
- Questions

Exceptional Children Accountability Tracking System (ECATS)

Special Education



Medicaid



MTSS



ECATS ODS



ECATS

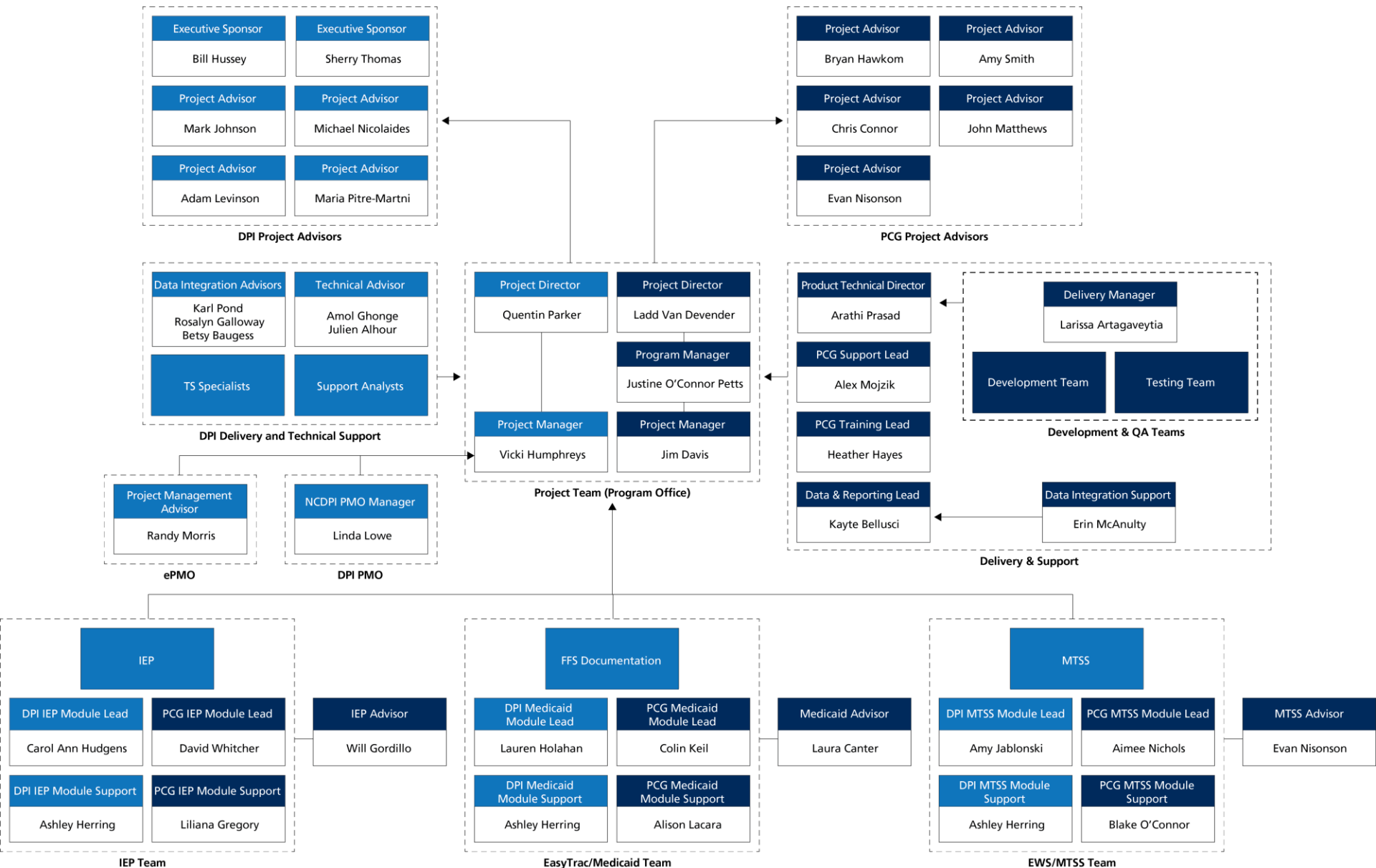


ECATS RFP History

- DPI is partnering with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to provide a statewide platform for Exceptional Children case management, Medicaid documentation, and Multi Tier System of Support for student support and planning, and data analysis and reporting.



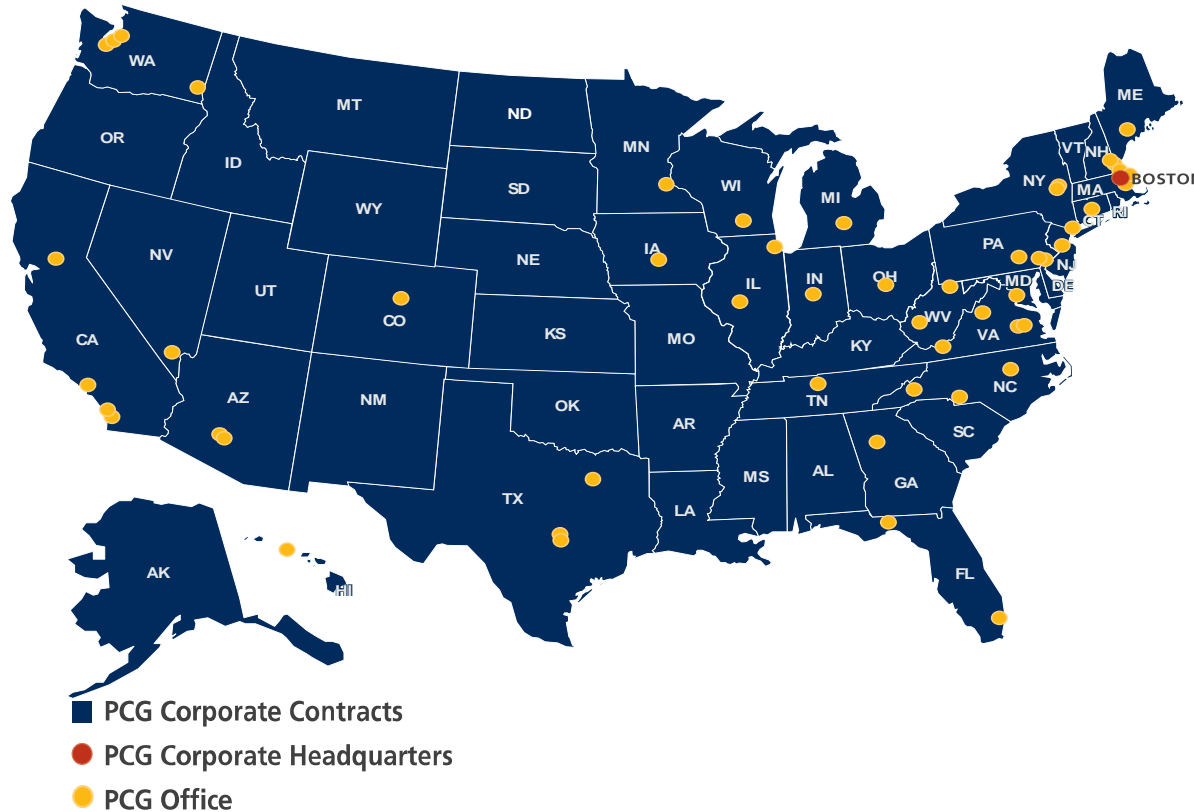
Introductions



ECATS Goals

- **Improve** student success and better prepare students for graduation and beyond
- **Provide** integrated multi-module system which meets requirements and provides a user-friendly experience
- **Deliver** an ECATS system on time and within budget
- **Provide** establish robust training and support models
- **Establish** sound communication and project management protocols to ensure transparency and shared focus
- **Maintain** cross-functional goal setting practices which ensure sound and sustainable technology, security, function, and work streams

Background & Experience



PCG Facts

- Founded in 1986
- 62 U.S. & International Offices
- 2,200+ employees
- 27 state agency clients
- 14 statewide education data systems
- 25% of U.S. special education population

North Carolina Facts

- 5+ years with NCDPI
- 20+ years with NCDHHS
- 60 NC LEAs

Background & Experience (cont.)



Tennessee

- 2004 – Present
- 180,000+ Special Education Students



New Hampshire

- 2005 – Present
- 30,000+ Special Education Students



D.C.

- 2008 – Present
- 11,000+ Special Education Students



Indiana

- 2010 – Present
- 175,000+ Special Education Students



Oklahoma

- 2015 – Present
- 100,000+ Special Education Students

PCG recently won the statewide special education engagement with the Virginia Department of Education.

ECATS Services

- **Special Education Data Collection & IEP Process**

- Progress Monitoring
- Record Review
- Compliance Review
- Behavior Support
- IEP Due Process
- Special Funding
- Paperless Storage
- New State IEP Forms/Process

- **Multi-Tier System of Support**

- Intervention Planning
- Early Warning System
- CEIS Reports

- **Fee-for-Service Documentation**

- Supervision Sign Off
- Plan of Care
- Medicaid Billing Fee Discount

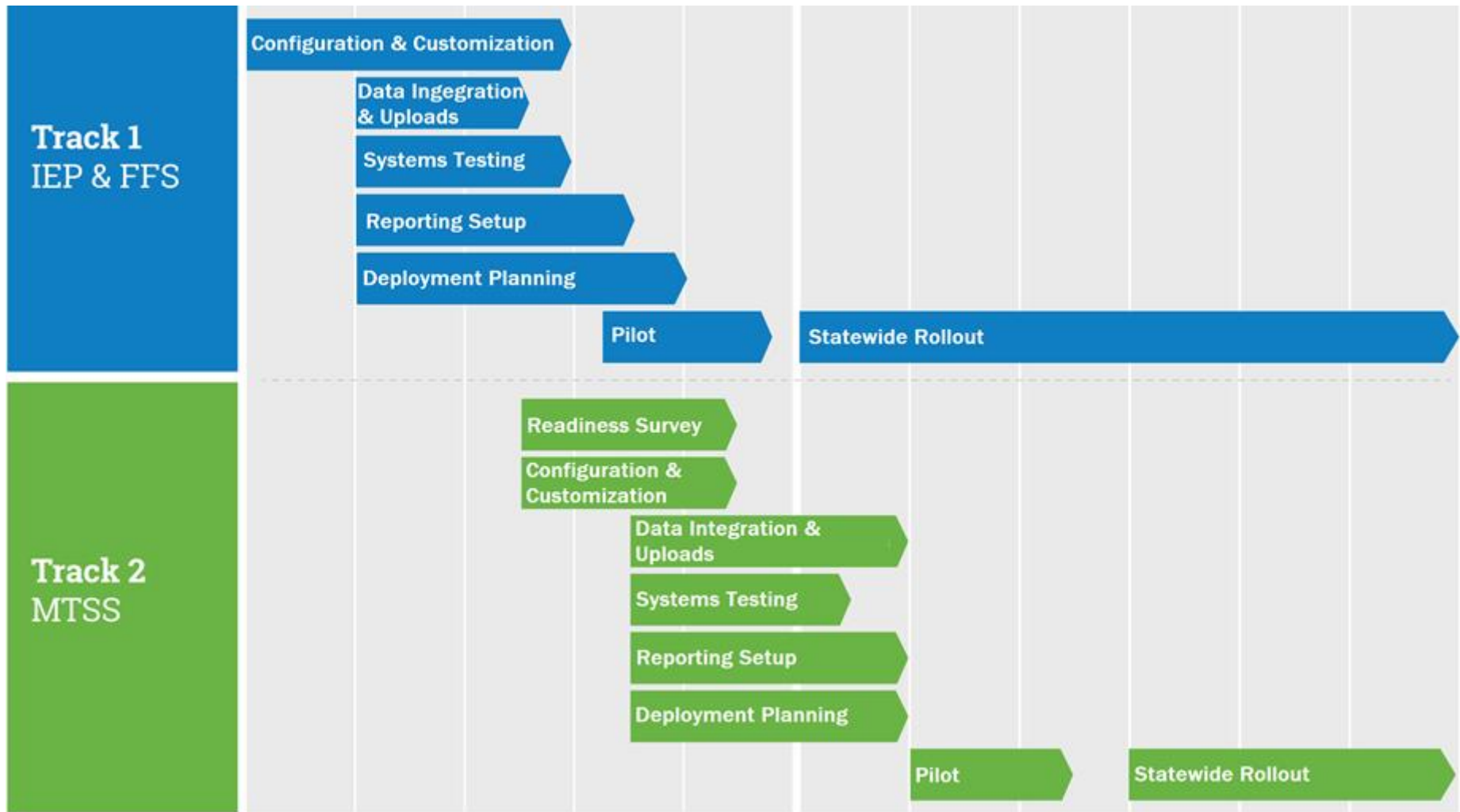
- **Data & Reporting**

- 75 Standard Reports
- Advanced Reporting Module
- Operational Data Store
- Historical Data Migration

- **Project Support**

- Service Level Agreement
- Full Service Implementation
- Train-the-Trainer, Videos, Webinars
- Tier 2 & 3 Support

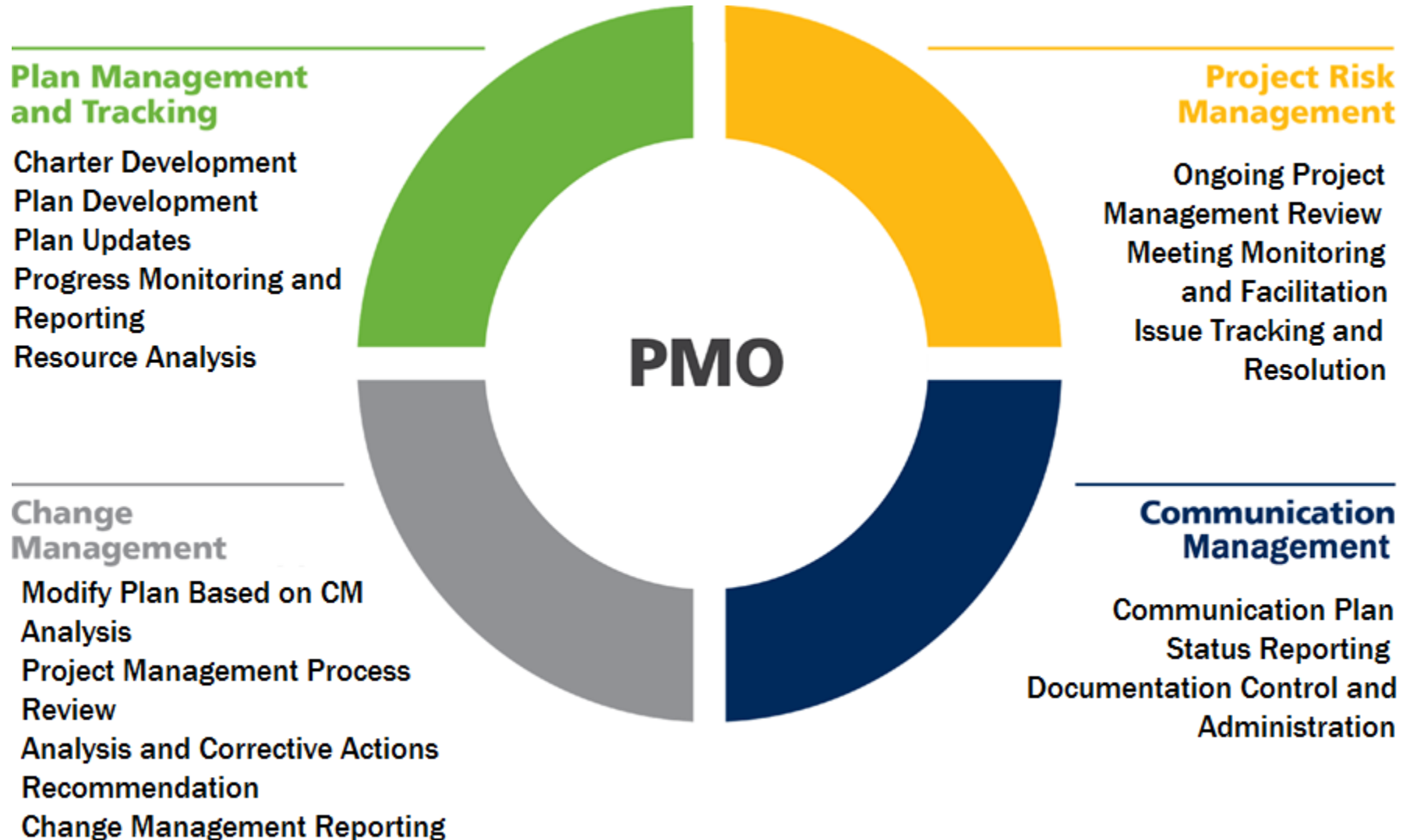
ECATS Rollout Strategy As Initially Proposed



Project Management Methodology & Approach



Project Management Methodology & Approach (cont.)

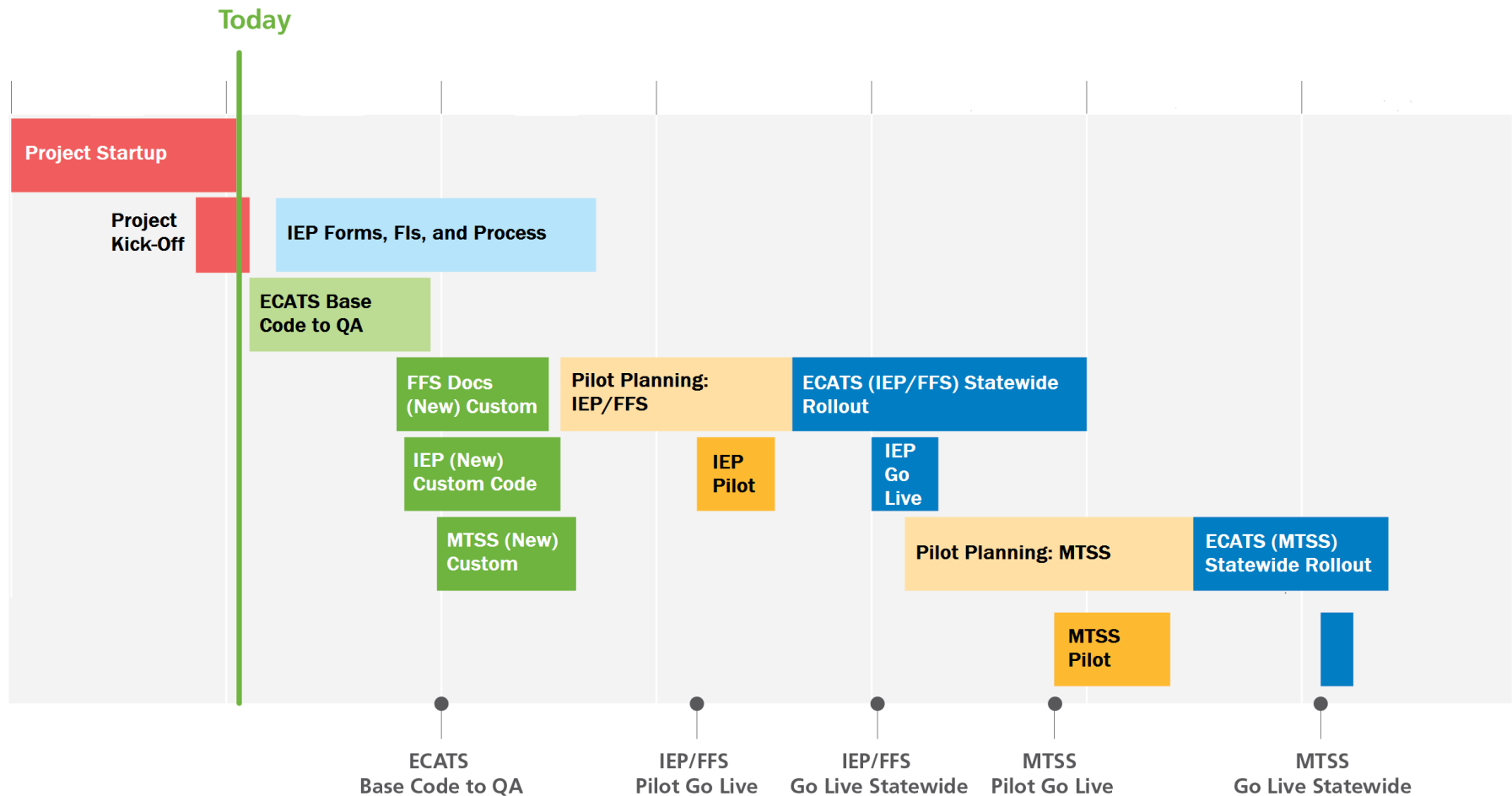


Project Management Methodology & Approach:

Project Meeting Schedule (cont.)

Time	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00am – 10:45am		Weekly Special Education Team
10:45am – 11:00am		BREAK
11:00am – 12:00pm		Weekly MTSS Team
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Weekly Project Team/ Monthly Executive Committee	LUNCH
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Weekly Medicaid Team	Weekly Technical Team
2:00pm – 2:15pm	BREAK	
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Weekly Data Team	

Project Management Methodology & Approach: Project Plan (cont.)



**Timeline illustrated here is based on initially proposed timeline and not representing final delivery plan.*

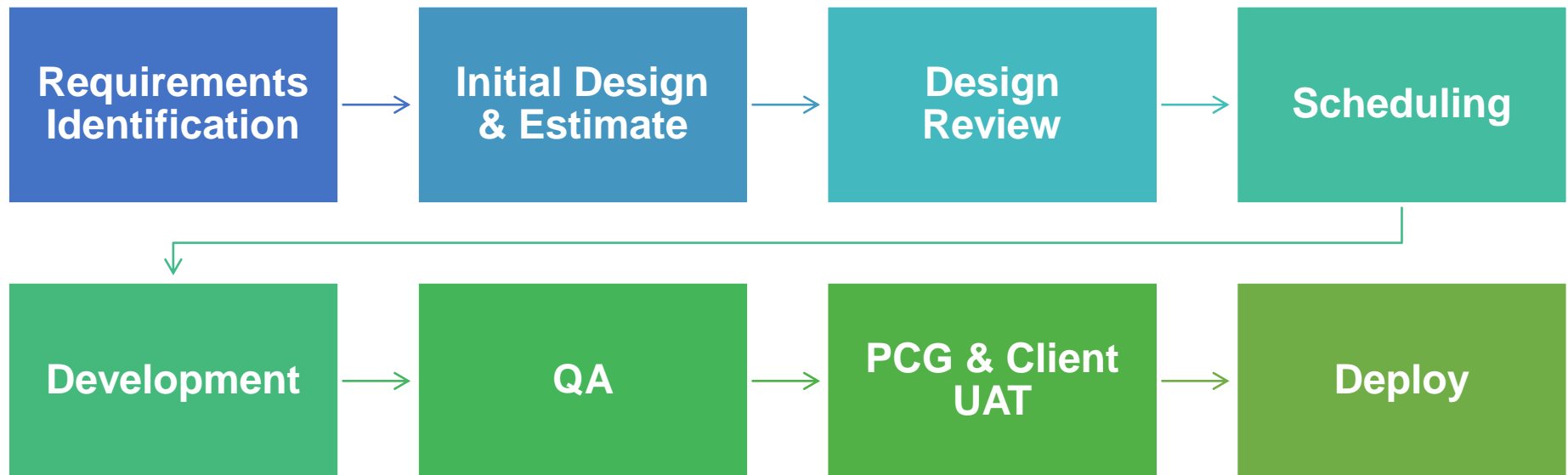
Break



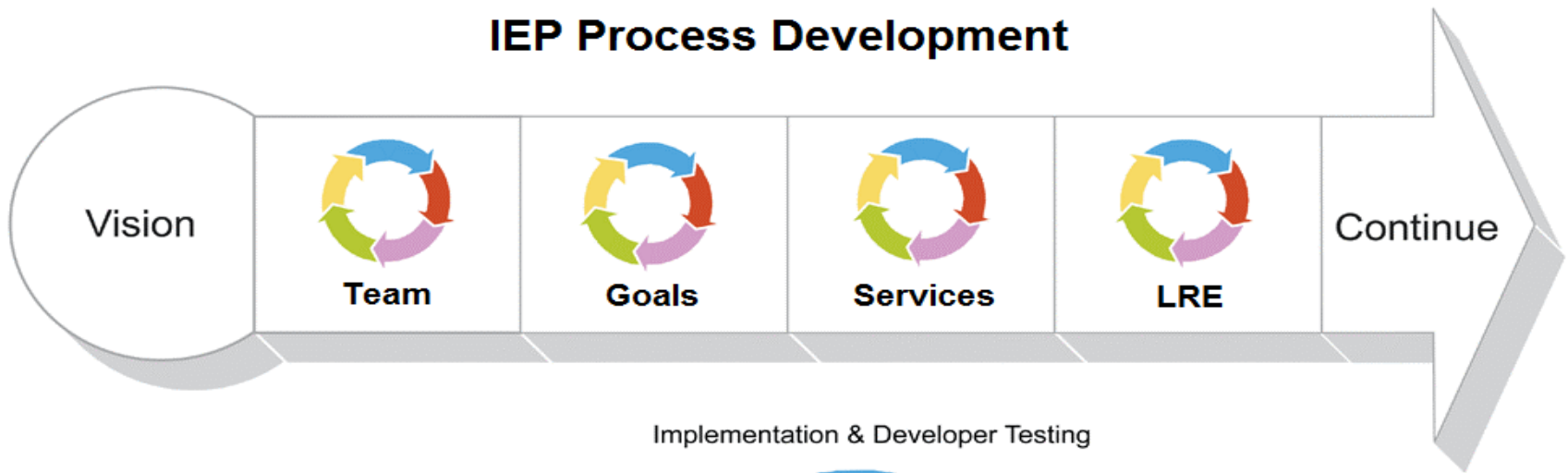
Development Methodology

This project will follow the standardized PCG EDU Solution Development Life Cycle (SDLC) and Project Management Methodology outlined in the PCG PMO Guidebook. This includes two approaches:

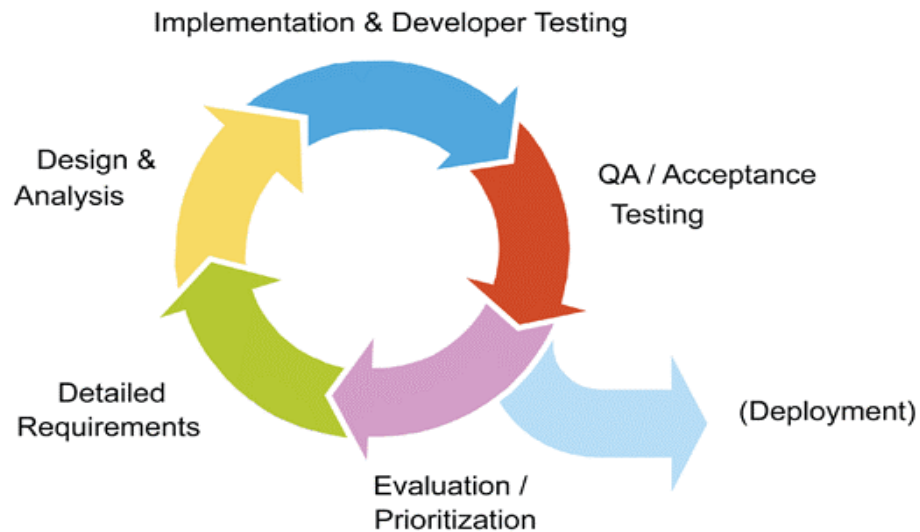
- Waterfall Model – Traditional Approach
- Agile Development – Rapid Application Development



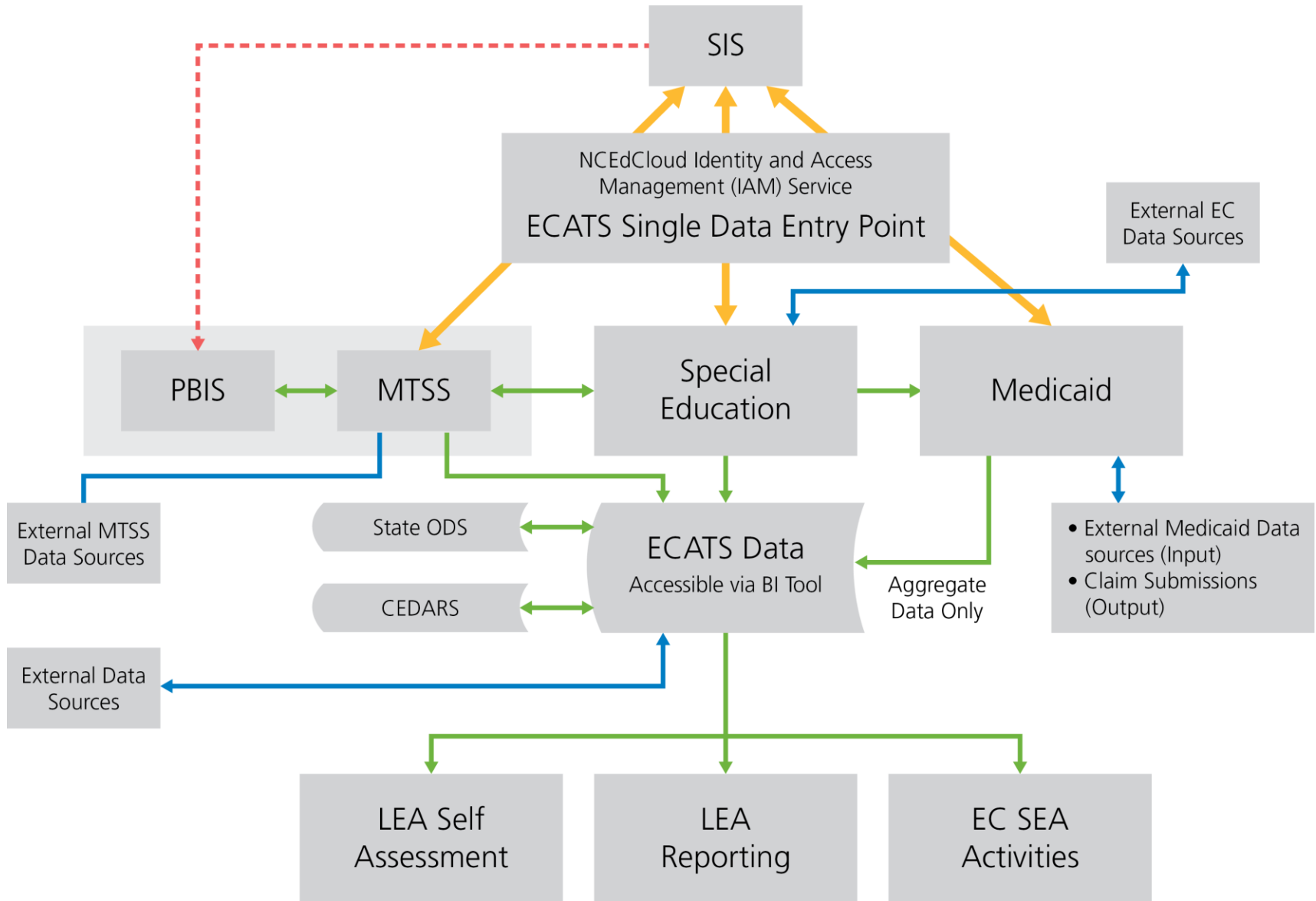
Development Life Cycle



Iteration Detail



Project Integration & Data Flow



Risk Mitigation & Key Decisions

- Finalize new IEP state forms and process
- Load historical data in a timely manner
- Meet project plan timelines
- Establish data integration and integrity
- Integrate with large scale systems and enforcing authoritative sources
- Provide MTSS readiness supports for adoption while end users simultaneously learn ECATS technology
- Balance local LEA customization desires with the requirement for a uniform statewide platform
- Provide Tier 1 DPI support that addresses ECATS requirements
- Establish clear, effective statewide communication methods

Upcoming Next Steps

- Immediate: Approve PCG Delivery Project Charter
- April 10: Begin requirements verification, elaboration for base code requirements
- April 14: Approve PCG supporting project documents
- April 14: Finalize and approve IEP Form changes
- April 28: Detailed ECATS delivery project plan
- Upcoming Tasks: Security Review, Architecture Review, and Baseline Plan



Questions & Answers

ECATS Communication Source



Website: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ecats/>

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