



Monday Message

October 4, 2021

Special Education Module

Note: This message is a repeat of the September 29, 2021, Director's Weekly Message.

UPDATE: ECATS - Clearing the Workspace

Prior to the start of this school year, the EC Division alerted PSUs that the workspace in ECATS would clear when the meeting purpose of "Annual" was selected. This was intended to ensure that a student's unique needs were comprehensively reviewed annually with updated academic achievement and functional performance, goals, accommodations, services, etc. This was also intended to reduce extra effort experienced by users when old information required deleting in order for new, more current information to be entered. However, at the present time, concerns have been raised about the amount of time required to re-enter accommodations. While accommodations should be reconsidered annually, the EC Division has considered this request in light of potential underlying issues with the design of the user interface specific to accommodations.

Therefore, while the EC Division works to improve the user experience with the data entry of accommodations, we have revised our decision to clear the workspace upon the selection of "Annual" as a meeting purpose. The clearing of the workspace will end on Sunday, October 3rd and at this time, users will have the functionality of accommodations carrying over to new IEPs being developed. Please be mindful that all accommodations should continue to be reviewed for appropriateness and need. Annual reviews must include current and relevant data specific to the student's unique needs and participation in the general curriculum.

- IEPs that are not reviewed and revised according to unique needs and a student's unique circumstances annually may appear inappropriately calculated to ensure progress if nothing changes from year to year. *(Andrew F.)*
- As a result of reversing this decision, users will now be required to delete information that no longer applies from the workspace prior to developing a new annual IEP.
- PSUs are encouraged to monitor the appropriate development of annual IEPs through the sampling of IEPs developed after October 3rd to ensure that procedural requirements are being met.

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Indicator 8 Reminder

For the select districts who have been notified, please be sure to get the Indicator 8 surveys out to the parents.

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2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 11

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 11 - Child Find in ECATS. The Indicator 11 count captures the percent of students for whom a referral was received, and placement determined within 90 days and is based on data from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The Indicator 11 Count opened October 1, 2021 and is due by close of business October 29, 2021. The training video, ECATS Webinar – Indicator 11 Reporting, along with additional reference handouts are posted in each district's ECATS instance on the main page under Resources > Federal Reporting. Please submit any questions or student level data corrections directly to ZenDesk to ensure that problems with data are corrected efficiently.

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2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 12

Indicator 12 captures data on students who received Part C services and were referred to Part B during the July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 fiscal year. All students must have an IEP developed within 90 days of the referral and receive services by their 3rd birthday. Indicator 12 will be submitted on spreadsheets by all PSUs and can be accessed by clicking this link: [Indicator 12 Spreadsheet](#) or by going to the ECATS site under Resources (<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/resources>). The spreadsheet has a tab with helpful clarifications to assist PSUs on entering their data and can be submitted at any time prior to the due date of October 29, 2021. Charter Schools do not need to submit an Indicator 12 spreadsheet this year. Please email all Indicator 12 spreadsheets to ecindicators@dpi.nc.gov.

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Important Federal Reporting Reminder: Submission Timeliness

If your district does not certify the data required for Indicators by the due date, your data may be certified by state staff. The integrity of the data is always at risk when the Department of Public Instruction has to finalize the data for your district.

Note: This message is a repeat of the September 27, 2021, Monday Message.

Federal Reporting Office Hours

As a reminder, the Federal Reporting Office Hours are open from at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month. Please contact Khalilah O'Farrow-Boulware at khalilah.ofarrow@dpi.nc.gov if you have any questions. To join in and ask any questions about upcoming federal reporting, please use the following link: <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/khalilah.ofarrow>.

Note: This message is a repeat of the September 27, 2021, Monday Message.

ECATS Data Manager Contact Directory

Please click [this link](#) to access the ECATS Data Manager Contact Directory. Review and update the ECATS Data Manager who serves as the point of contact for your LEA/Charter School/State Operated Program.

For previous issues of the ECATS Monday Message, please visit <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/every-child-accountability-tracking-system-ecats/monday-messages>.