



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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

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February 9, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors, Physical Therapy Graduate Training Programs in North Carolina

FROM: Mary N. Watson, Director *MNW*
Exceptional Children Division

SUBJECT: Tuition Reimbursement for Recruitment and Retention of School-based Physical Therapists

In an effort to recruit and retain the most qualified Master's and Doctoral level graduates of North Carolina Institutions of Higher Education in the area of Physical Therapy, the Exceptional Children Division is pleased to offer \$2,000 tuition reimbursements to five graduates from the six graduate programs in Physical Therapy (5 total awards). **To be eligible for consideration candidates must have graduated after May 31, 2008 or be expected to graduate no later than June 1, 2009.** The application criteria for this reimbursement are listed below.

Applicants must:

- Have graduated after May 31, 2008 or are expected to graduate no later than June 1, 2009 with a Master's or Doctoral Degree in Physical Therapy from one of the six North Carolina Institutions of Higher Education Physical Therapy Programs;
- Pass the Physical Therapy Licensure Exam for NC and be eligible for and in process of obtaining a NC Physical Therapy License;
- Have signed or have intent to sign a contract for employment with a North Carolina Local Education Agency;
- Provide a letter highlighting their interest in and experience with students 3-21 years of age in a school setting and summarizing leadership qualities they possess that will allow them to become an exceptional leader in the school, county, and the state;
- Provide three letters of recommendation, one academic and two clinical, focusing on the strengths of the applicant and suitability to work in a school setting;
- Provide a resume;
- Participate in an interview with the Consultant to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) in the area of Physical Therapy and at least one other representative of NCDPI;
- Agree to work for a North Carolina Local Education Agency for at least two academic years; and

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Mary N. Watson, Director

6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (919) 807-3969 | Fax (919) 807-3243

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

- Agree, in cooperation with the employing LEA, to participate in specially designed staff development opportunities provided by NC DPI focused on retention of and support for recipients of this award.

The Department Head from each Institute of Higher Education Program for Physical Therapy must complete and submit the attached application and required documentation for each candidate. The application, with required documentation, should be sent to:

Laurie Ray
UNC at Chapel Hill, CB# 7135
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

The deadline for receipt of materials is March 6, 2009.

If you have questions please contact Laurie Ray at laurie_ray@med.unc.edu or 919-636-1827.

MNW/LR/SWD/ds

c: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Directors, Charter Schools
Laura H. Snyder
Tom Winton

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
APPLICATION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPIST TUITION REIMBURSEMENT
Funds Limited to: Five (5) Awards for Physical Therapists from the six North Carolina
Graduate Programs in Physical Therapy

(All information must be complete and legible for the application to be considered.)

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

P.O. Box or Street City State Zip Code Home Phone

Social Security Number: _____ Email Addresses: School: _____

Home: _____

Name of University _____ Graduation Date ____ / ____ / ____

Applicant (PRINT NAME) Signature of Applicant Date

Name of Employing School System _____ Expected Start Date ____ / ____ / ____

Signature of EC Director _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Please attach the following information:

- 1) Evidence of employment, or intent to contract, with a North Carolina Local Education Agency
- 1) Physical Therapy Licensure exam score: _____ (submit copy of score report as evidence of passing);
- 2) Letter highlighting interest in and experience with students 3-21 years of age in a school setting and a summary of leadership qualities the applicant possesses that will allow the applicant to become an exceptional leader in his/her school, county, and the state;
- 3) Three letters of recommendation (one academic and two clinical); and
- 4) A current resume.

Submission of this application indicates the applicant agrees to the following:

- To participate in an interview (if invited) with the Consultant to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) in the area of Physical Therapy and at least one other representative of NCDPI.
- To make a commitment to work for a North Carolina Local Education Agency for at least two academic years.
- To agree, in cooperation with the employing LEA, to participate in specially designed staff development opportunities provided by NC DPI that are focused on retention of and support for recipients of this award.

Mail **completed** application and required documents to: Laurie Ray, NCDPI Physical Therapy Consultant
UNC at Chapel Hill, CB# 7135
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

DUE DATE: March 6, 2009