



Monday Message

April 19, 2021

Special Education Module

ECATS Consuming Core Contacts from PowerSchool

ECATS will begin consuming data from the new PowerSchool Core Contacts screen on the night of Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Updates should be seen in ECATS on Wednesday morning.

The following is for informational purposes and does not require work in ECATS. It is to raise awareness of the rules around ECATS consuming contact data from PowerSchool and, if any changes are needed, they will need to occur within PowerSchool.

The student contacts file is pulled nightly from PowerSchool and sent to ECATS. The PowerSchool Core Contact screen must contain certain criteria for a contact to be included in the nightly file. These criteria are as follows:

The student must be enrolled in the current school year.

The contact must be checked as 'Active' if the contact is a current contact for the student.

The contact must have a First Name and a Last Name.

The contact must have a Relationship type.

The Relationship type must be one of the contact types listed below:

Aunt

Father

Grandfather

Grandmother

Mother

Uncle

Foster Parent

Guardian

Stepfather

Stepmother

Based on the data in the record for a contact, ECATS will make updates to its list of contacts. The system looks for an existing record that is an exact match to the First Name and Last Name of the contact in the nightly file.

If ECATS does not find a match, it will add the contact and its associated information.

If ECATS finds a match, it will update the other contact information like address, telephone number, etc. If ECATS finds that it has a contact that PowerSchool has not included in the nightly file, that contact will be removed from ECATS.

Additionally, contact records must contain valid data in PowerSchool. The Lives With field should be checked appropriately, Phone Type should be selected (work, home, or cell for inclusion in ECATS), and Street Address should be entered. Also, a contact record will not load to ECATS if the Email Address is invalid. These types of data errors will cause contact records to reject and not load into ECATS. If they are existing records in ECATS, but are rejected in the load, these records will not update the existing contact information in the system.

If on Wednesday, April 21st, a contact is missing or not updated in ECATS, please speak with your PowerSchool Data Manager and ask them to check the Core Contacts screen based on the above information. Once corrected, that contact should be pulled into the nightly contacts file and be updated in ECATS the next day.

Office Hours

We will hold Federal Reporting Office Hours for the April Child Count on Wednesday 4/21/2021 at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. To join in and ask any questions about upcoming federal reporting, please use this link <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/khalilah.ofarrow>

Update in ECATS Annual Goal Areas and Special ED/Related Services Areas as of 4/25/21:

The following **Annual Goal** areas will be removed from ECATS:

- Expanded Core curriculum – all areas will be removed with the following modified to read w/out “expanded core curriculum”:
 - Recreation and Leisure
 - Sensory Efficiency
 - Compensatory Access
- Interpreting/Transliterating will be removed
- Language Cued Development will be removed
- The following VI: ECC titles will be removed:
 - VI: ECC Orientation and Mobility
 - VI: ECC Assistive Technology
 - VI: ECC Career Education
 - VI: ECC Independent Living skills
 - VI: ECC social Skills

The following **Special Education Services** will be changed:

- Daily Living Skills will change to Daily Living/Independent Living Skills
- DF/HI: Phonemic Awareness will be deleted
- VI ECC: will be dropped from the title of the following:
 - Recreation and Leisure
 - Sensory Efficiency
 - Self-Advocacy/Self-Determination

The following **Special Education Services** will be added:

- Assistive Technology
- Auditory Development
- Expressive/Receptive Language
- Expressive/Receptive Vocabulary Development
- Orientation and Mobility
- Phonological Awareness

The following will be added to **Related Services**:

- Assistive Technology

MTSS Module

ECATS MTSS Updates

As teams problem solve using resources in the ECATS MTSS module we want to ensure that they have all of the information needed to inform instructional decisions around support. Information around English Learner (EL) support may be part of those discussions. As you explore that support, always consider having someone present with EL expertise who can support the conversation. Additionally, with the support of our EL colleagues at DPI, we'd like to share this [guidance](#) to help you as you review testing data during problem-solving discussions. If you'd like additional support in this area feel free to contact your EL coordinator or email susan.walz@dpi.nc.gov for more information.

For previous issues of the ECATS Monday Message, please visit https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/ecats/monday_messages.