



Monday Message

July 20, 2020

Special Education Module

Tip Sheet: Required Screening and Evaluations

As a result of the implementation of the new AU and SLD policy, the monitoring consultants have updated the one-page tip sheet for required evaluations. A color-coded and a grayscale copy is attached. These tip sheets will also be posted to the EC Division website in the near future.

Indicator 7: Preschool Skills

There is a known issue with completing the Child Outcomes Summary Form. The ECATS COSF Exit form requires Entry info to be entered first. Therefore, LEAs should enter the COSF Entry information prior to starting the COSF Exit. However, some users have found that if they started the Exit form first, they cannot clear that drafted information in order to fill out the Entry form.

We are working with the vendor to clear the drafted Exit form information. *(Finalized Exit COSFs will not be affected.)* Please look for specific details and instructions in an upcoming Monday Message.

As a result, the final submission date for this data collection task has been extended to October 23, 2020.

Assessment Details

In response to user requests, the assessment details, that were only included with the Prior Written Notice previously, now display across the EC processes when assessment data are pulled in. Currently, the PWN only contains the list of assessments used to make the decisions rather than all of the associated assessment details.

EOY Data Management

As a follow-up to the technical assistance opportunities for data management provided earlier this summer, the videos have been updated and the new links are listed below. Questions regarding these activities should be directed to Kelley Blas and Patti Cox rather than through a ZenDesk ticket.

Exit Count – Kelley Blas <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cY13oqCNhg>

Indicator 11 – Patti Cox <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cY13DICNbC>

**Please note that this is a duplicated communication from the June 24, 2020, Director's Message. No changes have been made to links provided at that time – they are the same as above.*

EC Process Questions/Technical Assistance

Please remember that any EC Process questions may still be referred directly to your assigned regional monitoring consultant via email. These types of questions do not require a ZenDesk ticket.

Examples of the difference between ZenDesk tickets and Monitoring Consultant inquiries:

1. I need to document the implementation specifics for a student's accommodation on the bus. Where do I do this?
 - *This is an EC Process question that can be sent directly to your assigned monitoring consultant if the user cannot determine the location after the review of posted resources or consultation with local EC leadership.*
2. When I complete a draft of the IEP, the "Proposed" watermark does not appear on the printed document.
 - *This is potentially a technical issue with the platform, therefore this is a ZenDesk ticket.*

ECATS Module Requests

Last year, the EC Division provided a link to submit request for enhancements to the special education module. Those submissions have been reviewed and changes from that feedback will be messaged through the Monday Message at the beginning of August.

In anticipation of the roll-out of MTSS and ongoing suggestions for the Services Documentation and Special Education modules, the link to submit requests for enhancing all ECATS modules has been combined and updated for the 2020-2021 SY.

Requests for adding, deleting or changing elements in ECATS may be submitted using this link: <https://bit.ly/ECATSenhance20202021>

Submissions will be reviewed on a routine basis with follow-up messaging as changes occur.

As a reminder, ZenDesk is utilized for problems with functionality for the base ECATS system for all modules. Requests for enhancements to the system are handled through the bitly link above and are not submitted through ZenDesk tickets.

Meeting Purpose: "Reevaluation – Programming Only"

This meeting purpose has been removed from the eligibility determination process. This is intended to reduce confusion regarding whether or not the eligibility tab has to be completed if the reevaluation was initiated for programming purposes only. In practice, if a reevaluation is initiated only for programming purposes, the user completes the associated information in the reevaluation tab. No action is required in the eligibility area for this scenario.

Eligibility Worksheet for Hearing Impairment

This worksheet was missing the specific characteristics/questions for HI when ECATS went live. This worksheet has been repaired and is now functional in the ECATS platform.

Service Documentation Module

Telehealth Modifiers in Service Type

Providers should be aware that service documentation telehealth modifiers (indicated by VRS in ECATS) require two-way real-time (synchronous) interactive audio and video to provide care and services when provider and student/client are in different physical locations. Communication or follow up provided via phone or with audio only should be coded in ECATS as 'contact' or 'additional services' as appropriate.

Additional details regarding these requirements can be found in the Division of Health Benefits' [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #34](#), also available on the NC DPI Exceptional Children Division's [Medicaid in Education webpage](#).

MTSS Module



Thank you for the work you are doing in preparation of schools reopening under the COVID-19 pandemic. The Integrated Academic & Behavior Systems (IABS) Division wishes to continue to support your MTSS implementation. This [graphic](#) provides pertinent updates on the release of the ECATS MTSS Module. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact angel.batts@dpi.nc.gov or your IABS Regional or Cohort 5 consultants.

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