



Monday Message

November 12, 2019

Maintenance Window Scheduled for This Weekend

A planned maintenance window is scheduled for the evening of Saturday, November 16, 2019, starting at 8:00 pm EDT. ECATS production, QA and Training environments will not be accessible to DPI or the LEAs during this time. All systems will be available again by Sunday, November 17, 2019, 10:00 am EDT.

Preparing for the December 1 Child Count

At this time, it is really important to:

- 1- Clean up Non-Eligibility errors;
- 2- Enter all relevant data identified in the Alternate Data Entry process;
- 3- Review all stop signs/yellow triangles. A stop sign means that an eligibility or an IEP has expired. A yellow triangle indicates that an eligibility or an IEP will be coming due. You will want to make sure both of these items will be current as of December 1; and
- 4- Review your 90-day timelines for referrals coming due around December. LEAs often coordinate an expedited evaluation and placement meeting in order to have students included in the December 1st headcount.

You can find Monday Messages at this link: https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/ecats/monday_messages

You can also find training videos and tip sheets at this link: <https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/ecats/special-education>

Children will be eligible to be counted on headcount if their eligibility and IEP is current on December 1st.

Important Reminder About Policy Questions

Don't forget your assigned regional monitoring consultant or regional consultant can support your policy questions through technical assistance as per usual direct contact. These types of questions do not have to be submitted through ZenDesk unless it directly relates to functionality issues in ECATS.

Message from Sherry Thomas

EC Division and PCG staff are working diligently to continue to resolve concerns and issues as they are reported through ZenDesk. Two items are consistently being shared that I want to ask your help and support in addressing, as we continue to problem-solve and make adjustments in ECATS. While these concerns may not apply to all districts, this is a general pattern we are observing.

Much of the communication and questions we are seeing continues to indicate that daily users are not receiving information or communication to know that fixes and resolutions to problems have been resolved. If you have not already done so, please work to create an internal communication plan that gets this critical information to daily users. Monday Messages have been designed to be shared with all.

If your district had difficulty pushing down training to your daily users, please reach out to me. I am happy to work with you to see how the Division can help support you. I believe much of the frustration is in trying to navigate a system that is unfamiliar and potentially untrained.

Thank you for all you do each day to support students and teachers in your districts.
Sherry

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