

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., State Superintenden

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MEMORANDUM

To: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs

Directors, Charter Schools Institutions of Higher Education

State Improvement Project Coordinators

From: William J. Hussey, Director

Exceptional Children Division

Re: NC SIP Instructors/Trainers Certification

The history and success of the NC State Improvement Project (NC SIP) has been built over the past fourteen years. Based on a sound professional development model, the content provided in Reading and Math Foundations courses is drawn from the research on successful instruction of students with persistent reading and math learning challenges. This model and the Reading and Math Foundations 30 hour courses have received national recognition. In recent years, these evidence based practices have been substantiated through implementation science.

LEAs and Institutions of Higher Education who receive federal grant allotments through NC DPI in support of NC SIP implementation are expected to build capacity by developing instructors/trainers in order to perpetuate this ongoing personnel development work beyond the life of the grant funds. Through the Exceptional Children Division, the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) NC SIP staff oversees the approval and certification of instructors/trainers in the LEAs. In order to assist in building capacity, the role of DPI EC literacy and math regional and state consultants is to provide these courses free of charge in all eight regions of the state. For the names and contact information of the consultants see: http://www.ncsip.org/contact-us/project_staff.php and visit the events for reading and/or math: http://www.ncsip.org/events.php

Staff in LEAs, or IHEs, who have completed the certification process under the guidance of DPI, have done so by meeting the rigorous requirements which were established to maintain the fidelity of the course content. Additionally, these individuals are required to remain current on new revisions, research and programming.

To verify the individuals certified in an LEA to provide Reading and Math Foundations, contact Paula Crawford at paula.crawford@dpi.nc.gov or (919) 807-3993. LEAs that contract with approved instructors /trainers enable their staff to move through the state requirements to provide the professional development within the LEA. This will allow the LEA to develop additional certified instructors/trainers to perpetuate the goals of the federal grant.

WJH/PHC/ds