



## North Carolina ECATS Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2018

Welcome to this month's edition of the ECATS Newsletter. We hope you are having a great school year!

### ECATS Implementation

The ECATS team is developing an implementation schedule in concert with feedback from LEAs. Due to multiple concerns, including those from educators regarding a possible mid-year implementation, The Department of Public Instruction believes it is prudent to gather feedback from superintendents on timeline and next steps, and we will be doing so at the Superintendents' Quarterly meeting on Nov. 30.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

### Special Education Module: Current Focus

The ECATS IEP team has devoted much time this month addressing and resolving some finer point considerations for the EC module. Specific areas of focus include: recent policy updates, inactive student management, reporting considerations, and data and reporting items. Additionally, the team has placed extra focus on reviewing and finalizing system documentation.

### MTSS Module: Current Focus

The MTSS team is working on developing new features and tools, such as the Facilitated Assessment of MTSS, and an assessment book that will allow teachers and other users to upload NC ENSI scores quickly to the interface. Additionally, the team is setting up protocols to integrate LEA and third-party vendor data.

### Service Documentation (Medicaid) Module: Current Focus

The Service Documentation team has been testing additional configurations to ensure readiness for go live. The primary testing focus continues to be the new Mandated vs. Delivered Service Documentation tool. This tool assists providers in tracking the number of services that have been logged compared to the frequency of services mandated in the student's IEP. We are excited to introduce this feature with the roll out of ECATS.

### Transition Tips – Data Cleanup Resources

In preparation for the implementation date, it is not too early to perform data cleanup around Student Records. For example, you can review Closed Services by Student Report to identify student records that need to be exited or need an updated plan/IEP documented in CECAS.



### PROJECT TIME LINE

#### TBD – TBD

Blackout Period

#### TBD 2019

Statewide Implementation – Special Education/Service Documentation Go Live

#### TBD 2019

MTSS Go Live for First Implementers

### RESOURCES

#### DPI ECATS Website:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ecats/>

#### DPI Contact:

We welcome your thoughts, suggestions, and questions. Please send ECATS project related inquiries to [ECATS.INFO@DPI.NC.GOV](mailto:ECATS.INFO@DPI.NC.GOV)

### FAQ

Click [here](#) for the FAQ section. This will be updated on an ongoing basis.

**Q: We have service providers that are part of multiple LEAs. Has this been considered in the planning and accounted for with UID's and accessibility?**

**A:** Users will need to be set up in PowerSchool and IAM with all relevant LEA associations. These accounts will then be imported into ECATS associated to all designated LEAs. District staff will then need to assign an appropriate role within each LEA.

**Q: Will EC directors be assigning the user roles/permissions in ECATS?**

**A:** Who assigns user roles is a local determination. It should be someone who gets sent to district level training to be an LEA Level Expert. Typically, this might fall to a Data Manager, but it is ultimately up to the district who takes on this task.

**Q: When sharing with other district staff, specifically, IT, what will we need to ensure ECATS is running smoothly from their area of need?**

**A:** Districts should ensure good Internet bandwidth; additionally, one point of advice is to encourage your IT departments to avoid putting the URL "go18.pcgeducation.com" on any firewall-associated blacklists.