



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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DYSLEXIA CAPACITY BUILDING

Purpose

The intent of the Dyslexia Capacity Building initiative is to increase the capacity of educators to assess, identify and educate students experiencing core difficulty with word recognition, fluency, spelling and writing, otherwise known as dyslexia.

Objectives

- Connect **trainers' current knowledge base** of RRtCP coursework with specialized training in dyslexia in the following areas:
- Knowledge of the science of reading including an understanding of why some children experience reading difficulty, including dyslexia
- Causes and characteristics of dyslexia and reading disabilities
- Knowledge of components of word recognition including phonological awareness, decoding and encoding, and sight word recognition related to dyslexia
- Evidence-informed instructional and assessment practices in reading and writing specific to students with dyslexia
- Connections to current practices, initiatives and potential changes necessary to address needs of students with dyslexia across core, supplemental and intensive instruction and intervention.

Format

- A train-the-trainer course will be provided to selected Reading Research to Classroom Practice (RRtCP) instructors, extending and deepening their current knowledge. The selected cohort of trainers, regionally placed across the state, will provide professional development and technical support specifically related to word level reading and spelling deficits (i.e. Specific Learning Disabilities and dyslexia).
- The two-day course will provide the selected trainers the content, trainer notes and materials for a specialized one-day professional development (**A Deep Dive into Dyslexia- the Science of Reading and Expert Teaching**).
- Following the initial two-day train-the-trainer course, four virtual follow-up coaching and learning extension webinars will be held by the lead trainer and the SLD consultant within the NCDPI Exceptional Children Division.

RRtCP Trainer Cadre Selection

Trainers will be selected through an application process and will include a maximum of 30 participants. LEA applicants must have written approval from the Exceptional Children Director, and **the applicant's immediate supervisor**.

LEA and Trainer Expectations

- The selected trainer must be a currently employed RRtCP instructor.
- The selected trainer must commit to attending both days of the professional development course during the Summer Institute and all four virtual coaching webinars. The LEA agrees to provide time for the trainer to fulfill this requirement. There will be no exceptions to this requirement.

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- The selected trainer must complete all course requirements, including readings, homework and assessments prior to receiving certification as a trainer in the state approved training on dyslexia.
- Each trainer will be required to provide, at minimum, one **Deep Dive into Dyslexia** professional development course (full day) and one **Demystifying Dyslexia (1.5 hr) session in the LEA** and/or region per year beginning in the 2017-18 school year.
- This training is only to be provided to LEAs within North Carolina by trainers who have completed the full course, including all course requirements, and are designated as a certified trainer (i.e. NC Dyslexia Delegate). All other uses are prohibited without written permission from the NC DPI Exceptional Children Division.

Timeline

- The Train-the-trainer course will be provided on July 27-28, 2017 during the Exceptional Children Summer Institute in Greensboro. The virtual coaching sessions will occur throughout the 2017-18 school year.
- Trainers completing the certification process will provide the professional development beginning in the 2017-18 school year and continuing in subsequent years.

Lead Trainer

- Nancy Hennessy is an experienced teacher, administrator, diagnostician and consultant in both regular and special education. She served as the president of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) from 2003-2005 and currently serves on the board of the NC branch of the IDA. She has delivered keynote addresses, workshops and training to educators nationally and internationally, including the NCDPI EC Conference in 2015 and the NCSIP Spring Networking meeting in 2014. Mrs. Hennessy is currently providing virtual training to special education teachers in CMS on the topics vocabulary and reading comprehension. She co-authored Module 6 of LETRS, **Digging for Meaning: Teaching Text Comprehension (2nd edition)** with Louisa Moats and the chapter, **Word Learning and Vocabulary Instruction**, in Multisensory Teaching of Basic Skills (3rd edition). She is a former national trainer for Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS).

Lead Consultant

- Lynne Loeser, Statewide Consultant for SLD/ ADHD

Cost:

Summer Institute:

- Registration: \$100/ participant paid by the LEA (The registration fee covers the cost of all training materials and resources)
- Travel costs to be paid by the LEA

Travel costs for trainers (at state per diem rates) when providing training outside of their LEA will be covered by the NCDPI Exceptional Children Division

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