



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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

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To: Exceptional Children Program Directors
Charter School Exceptional Children Coordinators
NC State Improvement Project (NC SIP) Coordinators, Instructors, and Regional Coaches
Institutions of Higher Education

From: William Hussey, Director Exceptional Children Division *WH*
Paula Crawford, Ed. D., NC State Improvement Project Director *PC*

Date: September 9, 2016

RE: NC SIP REGIONAL COACHES: CONTRACTING

The Exceptional Children Division (ECD), Program Improvement and Professional Development Section has announced the names of thirty NC SIP Regional Coaches selected this summer through a competitive application process. These individuals accepted this role with the understanding that they will work closely with NC DPI ECD Literacy and Mathematics Consultants to develop teaming structures to assist with provision and active implementation of professional learning. This role was developed to build strong regional support and local capacity by providing greater access to the state level instructors for individuals completing the Reading and Math Foundations instructor certification process.

The Regional Coaches were provided with monetary support to attend the first recertification of instructors on the newly revised Reading and Math Foundations courses during the Summer Institute (Math, July 25-29 and Reading, July 27-28 and August 9-11) at UNC-Greensboro and Lexington. Additional professional learning opportunities will be provided to these coaches a part of **Goal 1** of the State Personnel Development Grant over the five year cycle from 2016-2021: *NC SIP staff will increase their capacity to provide leadership, professional development, coaching, and supports to participating districts, teachers, and families on leadership and effective reading, math, and content literacy instruction.*

In an effort to keep the role of Regional Coach devoid of any conflict of interest which may arise by contracting to provide Reading and Math Foundations within the state, the ECD has decided that Regional Coaches will not be able to serve in both capacities. If an individual is serving as a NC SIP Regional Coach, they will not be given permission to use the DPI materials for either the Reading or Math Foundations course while contracting within NC.

PRC 082 funds will be allotted to LEAs who employ the Regional Coach. The chart of accounts indicates stipend codes to support the responsibilities of this role for the individual. With that in mind, the benefits to individuals who receive the Regional Coach credential, as well as the districts in which they work, are described below:

Benefits to School Districts with Regional Coaches
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides increased opportunities to build capacity within an LEA ● Regional Coaches provide courses that are inter-changeable with state-level courses in the instructor development process. ● Supports the LEA Self-Assessment and development of an Improvement Plan ● Will be first to have the opportunity to deliver blended-learning Foundations courses ● Increased level of engagement with the NC SIP project ● Stipend support for Regional Coach responsibilities that extend beyond current LEA position

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Benefits to Regional Coaches
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve on the state-level implementation team for the NC SIP project • Participate in professional learning during the Spring Network Meeting, Summer Institutes, and other opportunities (e.g., Fall/Winter Symposium) designed specifically for the needs of Regional Coaches • Engage in leadership opportunities relevant to evaluation standards • Receive revised Foundations content from course developers • Refine coaching skills related to peer-observation, individual, and group coaching • Play an active role in development of future NC SIP courses • Registration fee waived for NC SIP events • Recognition / micro-credential / designation as a Regional Coach • Stipend designated to support role of coach if the individual is eligible through Chart of Accounts definition
Regional Coach Roles and Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend revised Foundations recertification during summer 2016 and complete all associated learning tasks • Deliver regionally (with NC DPI Consultant support) the revised Foundations course during the fall/winter of 2016 to Foundations Instructors in the recertification process • Attend quarterly NC SIP state-level implementation meetings • Participate in NC SIP regional coordinator meetings (as available) • Provide leadership in the development and implementation of a blended-learning Foundations course (online and face-to-face) • Ongoing email, phone, and virtual communication with NC DPI Literacy and Mathematics consultants • Participate in regional group coaching sessions for Foundations instructors three times annually • Co-develop and participate in the validation process of fidelity observation tools for reading or math • Provide development support for additional professional learning courses • Complete Learning Mathematics for Teaching online training (math) • Complete Learning Management System (LMS) platform training to support blended learning • Include partner LEAs in the planning and provision of at least two Foundations courses annually (i.e., opening additional seats in the course for prospective instructors who work outside the LEA)

If you have questions, you may contact Dr. Paula Crawford at paula.crawford@dpi.nc.gov or (919) 807-3298.

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