



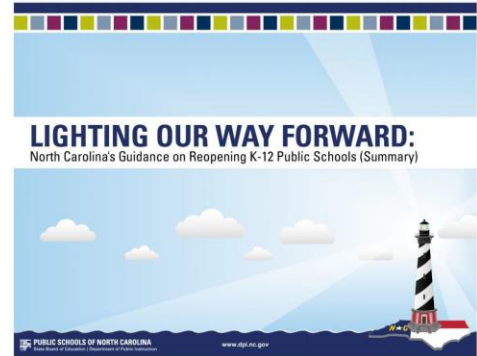
School Psychology Updates

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

June 2020

Planning for School Reopening:

The State Board of Education (SBE) and NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), in consultation with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), have developed [Lighting Our Way Forward: North Carolina's Guidebook for Reopening Public Schools](#) in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis. The purpose of this guidance document is to support NC public schools and communities in developing their plans and strategies for reopening schools in the 2020-21 school year. As public school units (PSUs) work to operationalize these recommendations, it is critical to be intentional and prepared for change as the year unfolds in light of public health needs.



Included in the guidance is [Reopening Guidance for Specialized Instructional Support](#), including [school psychology](#).



#StayStrongNC

The information available in *Lighting Our Way Forward* aligns with the interim guidance provided through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#).

For efficient access, all of the above information is linked directly from the NC School Psychology [COVID-19 and Telehealth Resources webpage](#)

Disability Specific Updates:

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD):

- A [technical assistance document](#) has been developed to address questions related to recent (effective January 1, 2020) changes in the evaluation and identification of students with ASD.

Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD):

- NC policy changes related to the evaluation and identification of SLD that align with an instructional model are [effective July 1, 2020](#).
- An [SLD resource page](#) with relevant information, tools and updates has been added to the NC School Psychology website to support effective



School Psychology Updates

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

implementation of the model. Check the site frequently, as information is added regularly.

- A [technical assistance document](#) has been added, which addresses many questions recently submitted by school psychologists during the (June 2) statewide webinar.

COMING THIS SUMMER – SELF-PACED ONLINE COURSE

Essential Elements of an Instructional Model for Specific Learning Disability Identification

Target audience: school level MTSS implementation and/or problem-solving team members such as EC teachers, general education teachers, building administrators, and instructional support staff (school psychologists, curriculum specialists, interventionists, school counselors)

Additional details in July!

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI):

- The [TBI Online Curriculum](#) has been updated and is now available! Although this curriculum serves as one component of the training requirement for school psychologists to conduct TBI evaluations in NC, it also serves as a **free** online learning platform available to all educators, families, and community providers. The information presented within the learning modules is available to increase understanding and supportive efforts in working with students with brain injuries.
- In addition to specific information for school psychologists who serve as [TBI Providers](#), the TBI webpage also includes a variety of relevant information and resources for [children and families](#) and [educators](#), including [concussion information](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) is hosting a **Webinar Highlighting Strategies and Practices in Providing Related Services to Enhance the Continuity of Learning During COVID-19 for Children with Disabilities** on **June 29, 2020**. Register for the event [here](#).



*The Reading League of NC will be launching **July 15th at 7:00 PM**. If you are interested in attending, please register via [this link](#) by July 1.*

The mission of the [Reading League](#) is to advance awareness, understanding and use of evidence-based reading instruction.

Their motto is "When we know better, we do better."



NCDPI School Psychology



[@ncschoolpsy](#)

Contact Information:

Lynn Makor, Consultant, School Psychology/Traumatic Brain Injury

NCDPI Exceptional Children Division

lynn.makor@dpi.nc.gov / 919-843-7049

<https://ncschoolpsychology.med.unc.edu/>

