

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 486

Short Title: Replace EOC with National Assessment. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Elmore, Bell, K. Hall, and Torbett (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 5, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO USE A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ASSESSMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL
3 ACHIEVEMENT AND COLLEGE READINESS TO REPLACE THE END-OF-COURSE
4 TESTS FOR GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6
7 **PART I. ELIMINATE EOC FOR GRADES 9-12**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** The State Board of Education shall eliminate use of end-of-course
9 (EOC) tests for grades nine through 12. The nationally recognized assessment of high school
10 achievement and college readiness, or the alternate assessment, administered to all students in
11 eleventh grade pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(4), as amended by Section 5 of this act, shall
12 constitute the State-mandated testing in grades nine through 12 required by
13 G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(1). Policies regarding participation in the NCEXTEND1 alternative
14 assessment may be applied in the same manner as prior to the enactment of this act, and the State
15 Board of Education may continue the use of the NCEXTEND1 for students with disabilities, as
16 appropriate.

17 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(4) reads as rewritten:

18 "(4) ~~To the extent funds are made available, the~~ The State Board of Education shall
19 use a competitive bid process to adopt one ~~nationally norm-referenced college~~
20 ~~admissions test~~ nationally recognized assessment of high school achievement
21 and college readiness to make available to local school administrative units,
22 regional schools, and charter schools to administer to all ~~students in the~~
23 ~~eleventh grade unless the student has already taken a comparable test and~~
24 ~~scored at or above a level set by the State Board.~~ The State Board of Education
25 shall require the administration of an alternate to the nationally
26 norm-referenced college admissions test or an alternate precursor test to the
27 nationally norm-referenced college admissions test to a student who (i)
28 exhibits severe and pervasive delays in all areas of conceptual, linguistic, and
29 academic development and in adaptive behaviors, including communication,
30 daily living skills, and self care, (ii) is following the extended content
31 standards of the Standard Course of Study as provided in G.S. 115C-81.5, or
32 is following a course of study that, upon completing high school, may not lead
33 to admission into a college-level course of study resulting in a college degree,
34 and (iii) has a written parental request for an alternate assessment. students in
35 the eleventh grade in accordance with federal law.



1 ~~The State Board of Education shall ensure that parents of students enrolled~~
 2 ~~in all public schools, including charter and regional schools, have the~~
 3 ~~necessary information to make informed decisions regarding participation in~~
 4 ~~the nationally norm-referenced college admissions test and precursor test.~~

5 ~~Alternate assessment and nationally norm-referenced college admissions~~
 6 ~~test assessment.~~ Nationally recognized assessment of high school achievement
 7 and college readiness results of students with disabilities shall be included in
 8 school accountability reports, including charter and regional schools, provided
 9 by the State Board of Education."

10 **SECTION 1.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2022, and applies beginning
 11 with tests administered to students entering their junior year during the 2022-2023 school year.

12 **PART II. ELIMINATE REQUIREMENT FOR ACT WORKKEYS**

13 **SECTION 2.(a)** The State Board of Education shall eliminate required
 14 administration of ACT WorkKeys for career and technical education students. For school
 15 performance grades issued based on data from the 2021-2022 school year, the career readiness
 16 indicator described in G.S. 115C-83.15(b)(2)e. and G.S. 115C-83.16(a)(2)b.3. shall not be
 17 considered in the calculation of school performance grades.

18 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 115C-174.25 is repealed.

19 **SECTION 2.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning
 20 with the 2021-2022 school year.

21 **PART III. CONFORMING CHANGES**

22 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-83.15(b)(2) reads as rewritten:

23 "(2) For schools serving any students in ninth through twelfth grade, the State
 24 Board shall assign points on the following measures available for that school:

25 a. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient
 26 on ~~either the Algebra I or Integrated Math I end-of-course test or, for~~
 27 ~~students who completed Algebra I or Integrated Math I before ninth~~
 28 ~~grade, another mathematics course with an end-of-course test, the math~~
 29 ~~subtest of a nationally recognized assessment of high school~~
 30 ~~achievement and college readiness.~~

31 b. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient
 32 on ~~the English II end-of-course test, the reading subtest of a nationally~~
 33 ~~recognized assessment of high school achievement and college~~
 34 ~~readiness.~~

35 c. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient
 36 on the ~~Biology end-of-course test, science~~ subtest or the science subject
 37 ~~test of a nationally recognized assessment of high school achievement~~
 38 ~~and college readiness.~~

39 d. One point for each percent of students who complete Algebra II or
 40 Integrated Math III with a passing grade.

41 e. One point for each percent of students who ~~either (i) achieve the~~
 42 ~~minimum score required for admission into a constituent institution of~~
 43 ~~The University of North Carolina on a nationally normed test of~~
 44 ~~college or (ii) are enrolled in Career and Technical Education courses~~
 45 ~~and score at Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels on a nationally normed~~
 46 ~~test of workplace readiness, readiness.~~

47 ...

48 g. One point for each percent of students who graduate within four years
 49 of entering high school.

- 1 h. One point for each percent of students who progress in achieving
2 English language proficiency."

3 **SECTION 3.(b)** G.S. 115C-83.16(a)(2) reads as rewritten:

4 "(2) For schools serving any students in ninth through twelfth grade, the State
5 Board shall define the indicators as follows:

6 a. Academic indicators. –

- 7 1. The academic achievement indicator shall include the
8 following measures:

9 I. Proficiency on ~~either the Algebra I or Integrated Math~~
10 ~~I end-of course test or, for students who completed~~
11 ~~Algebra I or Integrated Math I before ninth grade,~~
12 ~~another mathematics course with an end-of course~~
13 ~~test.~~ the math subtest of a nationally recognized
14 assessment of high school achievement and college
15 readiness.

16 II. Proficiency on the ~~English II end-of course test.~~ reading
17 subtest of a nationally recognized assessment of high
18 school achievement and college readiness.

19 III. The growth score earned by schools.

- 20 2. Repealed by Session Laws 2017-206, s. 1(b), effective August
21 30, 2017, and applicable beginning with the 2017-2018 school
22 year.

23 3. The graduation rate indicator shall be the percentage of
24 students who graduate within four years of entering high
25 school.

26 4. The English language proficiency indicator shall be the
27 percentage of students who progress in achieving English
28 language proficiency.

29 b. School quality and student success indicator. – The school quality and
30 student success indicator shall be made up of the following measures:

31 1. Proficiency on the ~~Biology end-of course test.~~ science subtest
32 of a nationally recognized assessment of high school
33 achievement and college readiness.

34 2. The percentage of students who complete Algebra II or
35 Integrated Math III with a passing grade.

36 3. The percentage of students who ~~either (i)~~ achieve the minimum
37 score required for admission into a constituent institution of
38 The University of North Carolina on a nationally normed test
39 of college ~~or (ii) are enrolled in Career and Technical~~
40 ~~Education courses and score at Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels~~
41 ~~on a nationally normed test of workplace readiness.~~ readiness."

42 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 116-11(10a) reads as rewritten:

43 "(10a) The Board of Governors, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the
44 State Board of Education, in consultation with nonprofit postsecondary
45 educational institutions shall plan a system to provide an exchange of
46 information among the public schools and institutions of higher education to
47 be implemented no later than June 30, 1995. As used in this section,
48 "institutions of higher education" shall mean (i) public higher education
49 institutions defined in G.S. 116-143.1(a)(3), and (ii) those nonprofit
50 postsecondary educational institutions as described in G.S. 116-280 that

1 choose to participate in the information exchange. The information shall
2 include:

- 3 a. The number of high school graduates who apply to, are admitted to,
4 and enroll in institutions of higher education;
- 5 b. College performance of high school graduates for the year
6 immediately following high school graduation including each
7 student's: need for remedial coursework at the institution of higher
8 education that the student attends; performance in standard freshmen
9 courses; and continued enrollment in a subsequent year in the same or
10 another institution of higher education in the State;
- 11 c. The progress of students from one institution of higher education to
12 another; and
- 13 d. Consistent and uniform public school course information including
14 course code, name, and description.

15 The Department of Public Instruction shall generate and the local school
16 administrative units shall use standardized transcripts in an automated format
17 for applicants to higher education institutions. The standardized transcript
18 shall include grade point average, class rank, ~~end-of-course test scores,~~ scores
19 from the nationally recognized assessment of high school achievement and
20 college readiness administered pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(c), and uniform
21 course information including course code, name, units earned toward
22 graduation, and credits earned for admission from an institution of higher
23 education. The grade point average and class rank shall be calculated by a
24 standard method to be devised by the institutions of higher education."

25 **SECTION 3.(d)** Subsections (a) and (b) of this section become effective January 1,
26 2023, and apply beginning with school performance grades issued based on data from the
27 2022-2023 school year. Subsection (c) of this section becomes effective July 1, 2022, and applies
28 beginning with students entering the eleventh grade during the 2022-2023 school year.

29 **SECTION 4.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
30 law.