

**ESSA Update**  
**Report to State Board of Education**  
**February 28, 2018**

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) submitted the revised state plan to the U. S. Department of Education (USED) on February 9, 2018. A conference call was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2018. The following was discussed at the January 31, 2018, State Board of Education meeting, and, as noted on the recent conference call with the USED, the NCDPI's proposal of "eligible students" as cited in the February 9 State plan submission is not acceptable to the USED:

**School Quality or Student Success (SQSS) denominators must be either all students in a grade or a cohort.**

- a. For ACT WorkKeys, the current denominator of students who are CTE Completers does not meet this criteria. To meet this criteria, the denominator may have to change to be all students in membership in grade 12.**
- b. For Math Course Rigor, the current denominator of graduates does not meet this criteria. To meet this criteria, the denominator will have to change to be all students in membership in grade 12.**

**Both of these will only require changes to accountability business rules; no changes to State Board Policy or state statute will be needed. The impact of these changes is that the percent of students who meet the benchmark will be a lower percent than currently reported, more so for ACT WorkKeys than Math Course Rigor.**