

Testing and Accountability Update

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Federal Waiver Approved

- As an accompaniment to the January 21, 2021, waiver request, the U.S. Department of Education's waiver request template was submitted on March 12, 2021
 - Waiver approved on March 26, 2021
 - Waiver applies to the 2020–21 school year
 - Includes accountability, school identifications, and some reporting requirements
 - Additional public comment period was not required

Next Steps

- Possible waiver of state statutes that align to the components of the federal waiver
 - Some of the required reporting in the NC School Report Card
 - Calculation and reporting of School Performance Grades
 - Identification of schools needing support and improvement

Included in the Federal Waiver

- Annual school report card requirements are waived
 - Accountability system description
 - Other academic indicator results
 - School quality or student success indicator results
 - Progress toward meeting long-term goals and measurements of interim progress

Required by State Statutes

- § 115C-12(9)c1, c3
 - Annual report card for state and public school units
- § 115C-218.65
 - School report cards (charter schools)
- § 115C-238.66(11)
 - School report cards (regional schools)
- § 116-239.8(14)
 - School reports cards (lab schools)

Included in the Federal Waiver

- School Performance Grades (A–F) designation for each school based on accountability measures that include the statewide assessments and other indicators are waived

Required by State Statutes

- § 115C.83.15
 - School Performance Grades
- § 115C.83.16
 - Use of School Performance Grades to meet federal ESSA requirements
- § 115C-12(24)
 - Accountability model for alternative schools

Included in the Federal Waiver

- Identification of Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools and Targeted Support and Improvement Schools are waived
 - Maintain current designations
 - No new identifications based on the 2020–21 test data
 - Next identification will be fall 2022 based on test data from the 2021–22 school year

Required by State Statutes

- Identification of all low-performing schools, continually low-performing schools, low performing local school administration units and low-performing charter schools
 - § 115C-105.37(a):
 - § 115C-105.37A(a)
 - § 115C-105.39A(a)
 - § 115C-218.94

QUESTIONS

