

# Transitioning to the Every Student Succeeds Act Reporting Requirements for 2015–16 and 2016–17

## Introduction

Effective with the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), December 15, 2015, Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waivers to No Child Left Behind (NCLB) were rescinded and Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) are no longer reported.

While AMO reporting is not required, reporting participation rates and sanctions remain in effect between the end of the ESEA waivers (August 1, 2016) and the implementation of the new ESSA accountability system in 2017–18. Participation must continue to be reviewed and reported for all student groups and assessments as noted in the [letter](#) from the US Department of Education received by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) on March 31, 2015. Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, North Carolina will report long-term goals and measures of interim progress currently under development in accordance with ESSA.

## Calculating Participation Targets

In order to ensure that all students are included in accountability measures, schools are held to the standard of testing at least 95% of their eligible students on assessments administered in their schools.

The minimum number of students needed to report the participation rates of a student group is 30. Participation rates of student groups with less than 30 students are not reported. Participation targets are set on the following:

- EOG Reading (grades 3–8)
- EOG Math (grades 3–8)
- EOG Science (grades 5 and 8)
- EOC English II (grade 10)
- EOC Math I (grade 10)
- EOC Biology (grade 11)
- EOC Current Year Assessments (course enrollment)
- ACT® (grade 11) (Year 3 or more participation sanctions are applied only on the All Students student group [eff. 2014–15])
- ACT WorkKeys (CTE Concentrator graduates)

## Student Groups

All participation requirements are reported using student groups. They are as follows:

All Students (school as a whole)	White
American Indian	Economically Disadvantaged Students (EDS)
Asian	Limited English Proficient Students (LEP)
Black	Students with Disabilities (SWD)
Hispanic	Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG)
Two or More Races	

## Participation Sanctions

North Carolina implemented through its ESEA waiver sanctions for missing participation targets. These sanctions must continue during the transition to ESSA. Schools that miss student group participation targets must follow specific steps to ensure that participation is being addressed. This process includes:

**Year 1**—When a school misses any student group participation target(s) for the first time it must send a letter home to parents informing them of the specific target(s) missed by student group and subject. The school must include information regarding its plan to ensure that the target is not missed in the future. A school must submit a letter each year it has any student group missing a participation target for the first time.

**Year 2**—When a school misses the same student group in the same subject for a second year in a row, it must create and submit an intensive intervention plan focused on the participation of the student group missing the target for a second year. The state may provide assistance through the statewide system of support. Schools are labeled as “Consistently Low Participating.”

**Year 3 or More**—When a school misses the same student group in the same subject for a third year in a row, the school is identified as a Focus School. An additional letter (text provided by the NCDPI) must be sent home by the school indicating a third year of inadequate participation and provide a plan to ensure full participation for all student groups.

Schools will have participation targets for any student group that meet the minimum of 30 students reported. If a school does not have data, there will be no targets assigned to it. Some examples of schools that may have little/no data, include but are not limited to, K–2 schools, special education schools, hospital schools, or vocational and career centers.