

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Title:** Recommended Interim Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) for the NCEXTEND2 OCS Assessments in the Areas of English and Mathematics

**Type of Executive Summary:**

- Action       Action on First Reading       Discussion       Information

**Policy Implications:**

- Constitution \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Statute #G.S. 115C.174.11  
 SBE Policy  
 SBE Policy Amendment  
 SBE Policy (New)  
 APA # \_\_\_\_\_  
 APA Amendment  
 APA (New)  
 Other Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

**Description:**

The recommended interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the NCEXTEND2 OCS assessments in the areas of OCS English and OCS Mathematics are being provided for adoption on first reading at the August 2007 meeting of the State Board of Education.

The NCEXTEND2 OCS assessments in OCS English and OCS Mathematics are newly designed and implemented assessments for students with disabilities who are enrolled in the OCS English and OCS Mathematics Courses. The tests were designed to generate scores for use in the AYP calculations and the ABCs at the high school level.

The recommended standards for each of these tests were set using teacher judgment information under the Contrasting Groups' method along with the use of the Reasoned Judgment Method which involves agency assessment staff analyzing consequential data to determine the impact of the recommended cut scores for each of the tests.

The department recommends that the recommended standards be adopted as interim standards effective and applicable for assessments administered during the 2006-07 school year. The interim standards recommended at this time are to be re-evaluated at the end of the 2007-08 school year once a test-based method is used to generate the achievement level descriptors and engages a teacher panel in re-evaluating the interim cut scores.

**Resources:**

The staff from test development at NCDPI, staff at NCSU-TOPS, some representatives from other sections and divisions within the agency such as the Exceptional Children's Division, teachers who provided judgments about the students who took the assessments at the time they were administered during the 2006-07 school year.

**Input Process:**

Input from a group of practitioners or teachers who administered the tests, staff from the Test Development Section, Testing Policy and Operations section, Exceptional Children's Division, staff from Curriculum and School Reform, and staff from NCSU-TOPS, and staff from other sections and divisions in the department have provided input into the design of the tests and the recommendation for the standards.

**Stakeholders:**

Public school educators, students, parents, the exceptional children's community, state and federal policy makers, and the general public

**Timeline For Action:**

Action on first reading at the August 2007 meeting of the SBE for implementation effective with the 2006-07 school year.

**Recommendations:**

The department recommends that the interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for NCEXTEND2 OCS English and OCS Mathematics be adopted for implementation effective with the 2006-07 school year.

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Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)  
Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)  
Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Motion By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Abstain \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Postponed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

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