

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Title:** Field Testing and Special Studies for the 2009-10 School Year**Type of Executive Summary:**

Action Action on First Reading Discussion Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
 General Statute #115C-174.12
 SBE Policy # GCS-A-015
 SBE Policy Amendment
 SBE Policy (New)
 APA # _____
 APA Amendment
 APA (New)
 Other _____

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

General Statute 115C-174.12 (b1) states:

“The Superintendent shall notify local boards of education by October 1 of each year of any field tests that will be administered in their schools during the school year, the schools at which the field tests will be administered, and the specific field tests that will be administered at each school.”

Attached is the list of the 2009-10 field tests and special studies. Consistent with General Statute 115C-174.12(a2) and SBE policy GCS-A-015, no school will be required to participate in more than two field tests at a given grade.

LEAs are permitted to file an official appeal requesting that a school be excluded from a specific field test sample based on the written justification submitted by the LEA superintendent along with the Request for Appeals form. All Requests for Appeals will be collected by the Division of Accountability Services and presented to the Compliance Commission for Accountability in September. The appeals, along with the Compliance Commission recommendations regarding each of the appeals, will be provided to the SBE at the October SBE meeting.

Resources:

Staff from the Test Development and the Testing Policy and Operations Sections of the Division of Accountability Services, staff from NCSU TOPS, the LEA Test Coordinators, Regional Accountability Coordinators, Compliance Commission for Accountability, and the NCDPI leadership will serve as the resources needed in the implementation of the field testing, sample generation, and the processing of field testing appeals. In addition, the resources of the selected public school districts and schools will be required to implement the field testing process.

Input Process:

The Test Development and the Testing Policy and Operations Sections of the Division of Accountability Services, Compliance Commission for Accountability, NCSU TOPS, State Board of Education, and NCDPI leadership

Stakeholders:

Selected North Carolina public schools, selected LEA and school support personnel, selected public school students, parents, General Assembly, State Board of Education, NCDPI leadership, and support staff

Timeline For Action:

This item is being presented for Information at the August SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE provide input to the NCDPI regarding the 2009-10 field test and special studies list and provide any necessary guidance prior to schools being notified in August regarding required participation.

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)

Motion By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Vote: Yes _____ No _____

Abstain _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

Postponed _____ Revised _____

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**NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Policy Manual**

Policy Identification

Priority: Globally Competitive Students

Category: Testing

Policy ID Number: GCS-A-015

Policy Title: Policy Minimizing Time Devoted to Standardized Tests

Current Policy Date: 02/02/2006

Other Historical Information:

Statutory Reference: GS 115C-174.12(a)

Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Reference Number and Category:

As specified in General Statute 115C-174.12(a):

- (1) Schools shall devote no more than two days of instructional time per year to the taking of practice tests that do not have the primary purpose of assessing current student learning;
- (2) Students in a school shall not be subject to stand-alone field tests or national tests during the two-week period preceding the administration of end-of-grade tests, end-of-course tests, or the school's regularly scheduled final exams; and
- (3) No school shall participate in more than two stand-alone field tests at any one grade level during a school year unless that school volunteers, through a vote of its school improvement team, to participate in an expanded number of field tests.

History Note: Statutory Authority G.S. 115C-174.12(a)

DRAFT

2009-10 Field and Pilot Test Calendar—North Carolina Testing Program

Number	Type	Subject	Eligible Students/Participation	Purpose	Format	Testing Window¹
1	Item Tryout	Grade 4 Math Grade 7 Math	All students enrolled in grades 4 and 7 at sampled schools	To field test items for construction of future tests	Multiple-Choice & Performance Tasks (online & paper/pencil)	Spring 2010
2	Item Tryout	Grade 5 Science Grade 8 Science	All students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 at sampled schools	To field test items for construction of future tests	Multiple-Choice & Performance Tasks (online & paper/pencil)	Spring 2010
3	Item Tryout	Grade 10 English	All students enrolled in high school English at sampled schools	To field test items for construction of future tests	Multiple-Choice & Performance Tasks (online & paper/pencil)	Spring 2010 ²
4	Item Tryout	Grades 9-12 Biology	All students enrolled in high school biology at sampled schools	To field test items for construction of future tests	Multiple-Choice & Performance Tasks (online & paper/pencil)	Spring 2010 ²
5	Item Tryout	Grades 9-12 Level I Math	All students enrolled in Algebra I or Integrated Math I at sampled schools	To field test items for construction of future tests	Multiple-Choice & Performance Tasks (online & paper/pencil)	Spring 2010 ²
6	American Diploma Project (Pilot)	Algebra II	All students enrolled in Algebra II at sampled schools	To improve curriculum and instruction and to help colleges determine if students are ready to do credit-bearing work	46 multiple-choice, 6 short answer, and 3 extended response	Last 12 days of course

¹ The NCDPI recommends that item tryouts be administered as close as possible to the operational test.

² Students participating in End-of-Course field testing in spring 2010 will be enrolled in either traditional year-long or second semester block courses (4x4).

Number	Type	Subject	Eligible Students/Participation	Purpose	Format	Testing Window¹
7	ONPAR (LEP Pilot)	Grades 5 & 8 Math	The sample for this pilot will be stratified for three student groups within sampled schools: 1) English language learners with lower proficiency in English, 2) students with learning disabilities in reading or other students with disabilities who might benefit from the ONPAR test, and 3) native English speakers.	To investigate the performances of focal group students with language challenges relative to the control group of non-ELL students with no IEPs. This is through the WIDA Consortium and NC's participation in an Enhanced Assessment Grant.	Computer-based multimodal items (text, images, animations, and sound)	Fall 2009
8	ONPAR (LEP Pilot)	Grades 5 & 8 Science	The sample for this pilot will be stratified for three student groups within sampled schools: 1) English language learners with lower proficiency in English, 2) students with learning disabilities in reading or other students with disabilities who might benefit from the ONPAR test, and 3) native English speakers.	To investigate the performances of focal group students with language challenges relative to the control group of non-ELL students with no IEPs. This is through the WIDA Consortium and NC's participation in an Enhanced Assessment Grant.	Computer-based multimodal items (text, images, animations, and sound)	Spring 2010