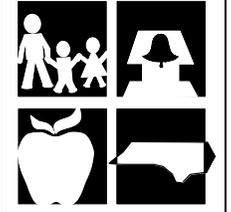


Assessment Brief



Public Schools of North Carolina • State Board of Education • North Carolina Department of Public Instruction • June St. Clair Atkinson Ed.D., State Superintendent

North Carolina Proof of Concept Study Grade 5 Mathematics Grade 6 English Language Arts/Reading

This brief is available on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Accountability web site, www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing.

This publication and the information contained within must not be used for personal or financial gain. North Carolina school system/school officials and teachers, parents, and students may download and duplicate this publication for instructional and educational purposes only. Others may not duplicate this publication without prior written permission from the NCDPI Division of Accountability Services/North Carolina Testing Program.

North Carolina Through-Grade Assessment Model

North Carolina's through-grade assessment model includes testing in grades 3 through 8. The model consists of three interim assessments administered throughout the school year and a stand-alone summative assessment at the end of the year. Interim assessments throughout the year inform instruction and help predict performance on future assessments during the same year.

A Proof of Concept Study of the through-grade model is being conducted during the 2015–16 school year to provide the State Board of Education (SBE) with data and information to help them determine the best course of action for North Carolina assessments. At the conclusion of 2015–16 and following the appropriate data analysis, the SBE will review results and provide direction on whether to proceed with a field test in 2016–17 for a sample population. If field testing occurs in 2016–17, then 2017–18 will be a pilot/operational year statewide.

North Carolina Proof of Concept Study

The Proof of Concept Study consists of three Interim Assessments for sampled grade 5 Mathematics and grade 6 English Language Arts/Reading students. The interims are administered in paper-and-pencil format only. No administration of the interims may exceed ninety minutes (except for students with documented special needs requiring accommodations, such as *Scheduled Extended Time*). The interim assessment scores are not included in accountability and teacher-effectiveness calculations.

Quick Facts about the Grade 5 Mathematics Interim Assessments

- The interim assessments include multiple-choice and gridded-response items.
- Gridded-response items require students to write a numerical answer in the boxes provided on their answer sheet and then bubble the circles that match what they have printed in the boxes.
- The interim assessments consist of two parts: calculator inactive and calculator active.
- Students are not allowed to use calculators during the calculator inactive part of the assessment.
- Students are allowed to use calculators during the calculator active part of the assessment.
- The interim assessments contain 25 total items (8 multiple-choice and 4 gridded-response items that are calculator inactive; 13 multiple-choice items that are calculator active).

- Students with disabilities will use the same accommodations for interim assessments that are specified in their current Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), Section 504 Plans, or LEP documentation for the regular EOG assessment. The IEP, 504, and/or LEP teams do not have to reconvene and document the accommodations for the Proof of Concept Study.

Quick Facts about the Grade 6 English Language Arts/Reading Interim Assessments

- The interim assessments include multiple-choice items.
- Interim 1 contains 20 multiple-choice items.
- Interims 2 and 3 contain 20 items (19 multiple-choice and 1 constructed response).
- The constructed response item is a short answer and can typically be answered in a paragraph or less. Students will write their responses on the lines provided on the answer sheet.
- Students with disabilities will use the same accommodations for interim assessments that are specified in their current Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), Section 504 Plans, or LEP documentation for the regular EOG assessment. The IEP, 504, and/or LEP teams do not have to reconvene and document the accommodations for the Proof of Concept Study.

North Carolina Proof of Concept Modified End-of-Grade Assessment

The modified end-of-grade (EOG) assessment is a version of the EOG test without embedded field test items. At the end of the school year, sampled students participating in the Proof of Concept Study will take this shortened EOG test for the content area in which they were selected.

Quick Facts about the Modified End-of-Grade Assessment

- Students will have an assessment book that will contain either the modified English Language Arts/Reading or Mathematics assessment and the regular EOG assessment (i.e., the grade 5 assessment book will contain the regular English Language Arts/Reading EOG and the modified Mathematics EOG; the grade 6 assessment book will contain the regular Mathematics EOG and the modified English Language Arts/Reading EOG).
- The modified EOG assessment contains only multiple-choice questions.
- Students with disabilities will use the same accommodations for the modified assessment that are specified in their current Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), Section 504 Plans, or LEP documentation for the regular EOG assessment. The IEP, 504, and/or LEP teams do not have to reconvene and document the accommodations for the Proof of Concept Study.
- The modified EOG assessment will be included in accountability and teacher effectiveness calculations.

In compliance with federal laws, NC Public Schools administers all state-operated educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law. Inquiries or complaints should be directed to: *Dr. Rebecca Garland, Deputy State Superintendent, Academic Services and Instructional Support, 6368 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6368 Telephone (919) 807-3305; Fax (919) 807-4065.*