

# Assessment Brief



Public Schools of North Carolina • State Board of Education • William Cobey, Chairman • North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

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## Understanding the North Carolina College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment

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### The College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment

The North Carolina College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment (CCRAA) is a new assessment designed in response to House Bill 587 passed by the North Carolina General Assembly in the 2013 Session. House Bill 587 requires the administration of an alternate to The ACT® for students who exhibit severe and pervasive delays in all areas of conceptual, linguistic, and academic development as well as in adaptive behaviors, including communication, daily living skills, and self-care, and who are following a course of study that, upon completion of high school, may not lead to admission into a college-level course of study resulting in a college degree. The decision to assess a student on the CCRAA must be made as part of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process. To determine student participation in the CCRAA, the eligibility requirements are listed below or may be found at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/alternateassess/>.

### Eligible Students

To determine if a student is eligible to participate in the CCRAA the following eligibility requirements should be considered:

- The student is enrolled in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- The student has a current IEP.
- The student does not have only a current Section 504 Plan.
- The student, if identified as limited English proficient (LEP), must also have a current IEP.
- The student exhibits severe and pervasive delays in all areas of conceptual, linguistic, and academic development as well as in adaptive behaviors, including communication, daily living skills, and self-care.
- The student is following a course of study that, upon completion of high school, may not lead to admission into a college-level course of study resulting in a college degree.
- The student is not receiving instruction in the North Carolina Extended Common Core and Essential Standards.
- The student meets the criteria above and has a written parental request for an alternate assessment.

### Testing Window

General Statute §115C-174.22 requires the administration of the CCRAA to occur

simultaneously with The ACT administration. As such, the testing window for the CCRAA is the same as The ACT accommodations testing window of March 4–18, 2014.

### **Administration Time**

The administration time for the CCRAA is 150 minutes. Like The ACT, the administration of the CCRAA must be the first activity of the morning. The verbal instructions to students are to begin no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day of the test administration. Breaks must not be extended for any reason (except for students with documented special needs requiring accommodations, such as *Multiple Testing Sessions* and *Scheduled Extended Time*).

### **Subjects Covered on the Test**

The CCRAA must be administered in a specific subject order. English is administered first, followed by Math, Reading, Science and Writing. Students will not stop between subjects. Students must continue working on the test questions until the entire test is completed or until time is called.

### **Number of Test Questions**

The CCRAA has a total of 44 questions: 13 multiple-choice English questions, 12 multiple-choice math questions, 8 multiple-choice reading questions, 10 multiple-choice science questions, and one writing question that will be answered in the form of a constructed response.

### **Scoring and Reporting**

Students will receive a single score based on how many of the 44 CCRAA items they answer correctly. Per G.S. §115C-174.11(c)(4)(b), the “alternate assessment results of students with disabilities shall be included in school accountability reports, including charter and regional schools, provided by the State Board of Education.”

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