Frequently Asked Questions—Assessment

1. Will there be a North Carolina Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Assessment following the completion of the first high school mathematics? If so, will the same test be administered for the traditional and integrated path?
   **Answer:** Beginning with the 2012 – 2013 school year, North Carolina will assess the Common Core Math I Standards for Assessment taught in the courses titled “Algebra I” or “Integrated Mathematics I”. This assessment will be the same for both courses.

2. Will current 11th grade students take a test at the end of this school year?
   **Answer:** Students who are currently in the 11th grade will take the ACT in March of 2012.

3. Will the current 8th graders who have taken the Algebra I EOC be assessed in 2014 – 2015 on the Common Core State Standards?
   **Answer:** The current Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) timeline would require all 11th graders 2014 – 2015 and beyond to take the SBAC assessment. The Common Core State Standards must be taught before this time and LEAs are responsible for deciding how this is done.

4. Will there be an end-of-course assessment given by the state for the second and third high school Math courses?
   **Answer:** No

5. What will be the format for the assessment on the Math I standards in 2012 – 2013?
   **Answer:** This information can be found at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/assessment/online/ under the Test Specifications for the Next Generation of Assessments.

6. What courses will North Carolina assess next year?
   **Answer:** North Carolina will assess Algebra I and Integrated Mathematics I students using the Common Math I Standards for Assessment.

7. Will students take the SBAC test at the end of their junior year if they have not passed their third year course?
   **Answer:** Beginning in 2014-2015 all students will take the SBAC assessment at the end of their junior year. The SBAC is an 11th grade assessment, not a course-specific assessment such as the North Carolina end-of-course tests, and as such, completion of a specific course is not an eligibility requirement.

8. If students are currently taking Algebra I in 8th grade, then enroll in Geometry as 9th graders, how will they meet the standards for the SBAC by their junior year?
   **Answer:** LEAs will use their best judgment in determining how the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) will be infused into their local curriculum. Therefore, the CCSS must be taught before this time.

9. What standards or courses will students be required to know when taking the SBAC?
   **Answer:** Current 8th graders will be responsible for the CCSS found in the crosswalks for either pathway. They will be the first cohort expected to take the SBAC. In general, the expectation is that students would have completed Algebra II/Integrated III, but the assessment is cumulative across the high school standards.
10. Will the SBAC assessment replace the ACT?
   **Answer:** No. When the SBAC assessment becomes available in 2014 – 2015, students will take both the ACT and the SBAC assessment during their 11th grade year.

11. If a student is repeating a course for credit, will they have to retake the EOC? How will their score factor into the final grade?
   **Answer:**
   If the student previously obtained a level III or above on the Algebra I EOC, the student is not required to take the EOC a second time, but the previous EOC test score must be at least 25% of the student’s final grade.

   If the student did not previously obtain a level III or above on the Algebra I EOC, the student must take the EOC again at the completion of the course and that test score must be used as at least 25% of the student’s final grade.

   This policy should hold consistent as we transition from the Algebra I EOC to the Math I assessment. Therefore, if a student did not obtain a level III or above on the Algebra I EOC prior to the 2012 -2013 school year, the student must take the Math I assessment at the completion of the course and the score must be used as at least 25% of the student’s final grade.