AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06A .0201

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

On line 27, the cited statute only defines "professional educator" and not "educator". Do you mean for this to be something like ""Educator" means "professional educator" as defined in G.S. 115C-270.1(2)"?

1	16 NCAC 06A .0201 is adopted as published in 39 NCR 166–167 as follows:		
2			
3	SUBCHA	APTER 6A – ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES	
4			
5		SECTION .0200 – Organization and Administration	
6			
7	16 NCAC 06A	.0201 DEFINITIONS	
8	As used in this	Chapter, the following definitions apply unless otherwise specified:	
9	<u>(1)</u>	"Board," "SBE," or "NCSBE" means the State Board of Education.	
10	<u>(2)</u>	"Charter school" means a public school organized and operated under Chapter 115, Article 14A of	
11		the General Statutes.	
12	<u>(3)</u>	"Department," "DPI," or "NCDPI" means the Department of Public Instruction.	
13	<u>(4)</u>	"High school" means a public school offering education in Grades 9 through 12 or 10 through 12.	
14	<u>(5)</u>	"Institution of higher education" or "IHE" means a community college, two-year college, four-year	
15		college, or university accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Secretary of	
16		Education to be a reliable authority on accreditation.	
17	<u>(6)</u>	"Junior high school" means a public school offering education in Grades 6 through 9 or 7 through	
18		<u>9.</u>	
19	<u>(7)</u>	"Local education agency" or "LEA" means a local school administrative unit.	
20	<u>(8)</u>	"Local board of education" or "local board" is defined in G.S. 115C-5(5).	
21	<u>(9)</u>	"Local school administrative unit" or "LSAU" is defined in G.S. 115C-5(6).	
22	<u>(10)</u>	"Local superintendent" means the superintendent of a local school a dministrative unit, as provided	
23		in Chapter 115C, Article 18 of the General Statutes.	
24	<u>(11)</u>	"Middle school" means a public school offering education in Grades 6 through 8.	
25	(12)	"Principal" means a school administrator employed as the principal of a school, as provided in	
26		Chapter 115C, Article 19 of the General Statutes.	
27	<u>(13)</u>	"Professional educator" or "educator" is defined in G.S. 115C-270.1(2).	
28	<u>(14)</u>	"Public school" or "school" means a public institution offering tuition-free education at any level	
29		from Kindergarten through Grade 12 and that is under the jurisdiction of a public school unit.	
30	<u>(15)</u>	"Public school unit" or "PSU" is defined in G.S. 115C-5(7a).	
31	<u>(16)</u>	"PSU governing body" or "governing body of a public school unit" is defined in G.S. 115C-5(3a).	
32	<u>(17)</u>	"Regional school" is defined in G.S. 115C-238.61(4).	
33	<u>(18)</u>	"School district" is defined in G.S. 115C-5(4).	
34	<u>(19)</u>	"School for the blind" is defined in G.S. 115C-150.10(6).	
35	<u>(20)</u>	"School for the deaf" is defined in G.S. 115C-150.10(7).	
36	<u>(21)</u>	"School year" or "a cademic year" means a calendar year beginning on July 1 of one year and ending	
37		on June 30 of the following year.	

1	(22)	"Student" means a person enrolled in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or in Grade 1 through Grade
2		<u>12 in any public school unit.</u>
3		
4	History Note:	<u>Authority G.S. 115C-5; 115C-12; 115C-150.10; 115C-218; 115C-238.61; 115C-270.1;</u>
5		<u>Eff. January 1, 2025.</u>

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06D .0501

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

On page 1, line 36, "<u>career and technical education</u>, and <u>or</u> <u>the arts.</u>"

On page 2, lines 23 through 29 (the definition of Standard Course of Study), I didn't see any rules that used this term. Do you need this definition?

Furthermore, the RRC has previously objected to rules incorporating or referencing the standard course of study because the standard course of study had not been adopted as a rule and there did not appear to be statutory authority to adopt it outside of the APA (see, e.g. page 3 of this letter: https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/rrc/01212021-follow-matter-tab-e-boardeducation-06e/download). Has something changed since these objections?

1	16 NCAC 06D	.0501 is readopted as published in 39 NCR 167–168 as follows:
2		
3		SECTION .0500 – DEFINITIONS <u>PROMOTION AND GRADUATION</u>
4		
5	16 NCAC 06E	0.0501 DEFINITIONS
6	As used in this	Subchapter: Section, the following definitions apply:
7	(1)	
8		work, assessment data, and other evaluation information.
9	(2)	"focused intervention" shall mean help for students in a ttaining competency goals and objectives. The
10		help or assistance shall be based on a diagnosis of what the student knows and is able to do. The
11		strategies for helping the student shall be based on the diagnosis of the student's work.
12	(3)	
13		mathematics in grades 3-8. In grades K-2, teachers shall identify those students who are not
14		performing at grade-level expectations. The levels of student performance shall be defined as follows:
15		(a) "Level I" shall mean that the student fails to a chieve at a basic level. Students performing at
16		this level do not have sufficient mastery of knowledge and skills in this subject area to be
17		successful at the next grade level.
18		(b) "Level II" shall mean that the student a chieves at a basic level. Students performing at this
19		level demonstrate inconsistent mastery of knowledge and skills in this subject area and are
20		minimally prepared to be successful at the next grade level.
21		(c) "Level III" shall mean that the student achieves at a proficient level. Students performing at
22		this level consistently demonstrate mastery of grade level subject matter and skills and are
23		well prepared for the next grade level.
24		$(d) \\ \begin{tabular}{lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$
25		this level consistently perform in a superior manner clearly beyond that required to be
26		proficient at grade level work.
27	(4)	"instructionally sound" shall mean a practice or strategy that reflects research findings and the
28		a chievement needs of students. The practice shall take into account student learning styles, effective
29		delivery of content and skills, diagnosis, monitoring, and evaluation.
30	<u>(1)</u>	"Alternative assessment" is defined in G.S. 115C-83.3.
31	<u>(2)</u>	"Career and technical education" or "CTE" means education designed to teach a set of technical or
32		career-based skills, including agriculture, business and finance, family and consumer science, health
33		science, information technology, marketing, technology, and industrial trades.
34	(3)	"Child with a disability" is defined in G.S. 115C-106.3(1).
35	<u>(4)</u>	"Content area" means a subject matter, academic discipline, or knowledge domain, such as a core
36		academic area, career and technical education, and the arts.

1	<u>(5)</u>	"Content standards" means the knowledge, concepts, and skills that a student should acquire at a
2		specific grade level or within a specific content area. The Standard Course of Study indicates the
3		minimum content standards for students in North Carolina.
4	<u>(6)</u>	"Core a cademic areas" means the a cademic disciplines of reading, writing, mathematics, science,
5		history, geography, and civics.
6	<u>(7)</u>	"Course credit" means the documented recognition that a student has demonstrated, to the
7		satisfaction of the governing body of a public school unit and consistent with the content standards.
8		rigor, breadth, and depth of the Standard Course of Study, mastery of the content area for which the
9		credit is being earned.
10	<u>(8)</u>	"Elective course credit" means course credit not specifically mandated by law or by this Section.
11	<u>(9)</u>	"Individualized education program" or "IEP" is defined in G.S. 115C-106.3(8).
12	<u>(10)</u>	"IEP team" is defined in G.S. 115C-106.3(7).
13	<u>(11)</u>	"Occupational preparation education" means instruction designed to prepare a student identified as
14		a child with a disability for post-secondary education, employment, or independent living.
15	(12)	"Postsecondary plans" means a student's educational or occupational plans after graduating from
16		high school, such as one of the following:
17		(a) Enrollment in an institution of higher education.
18		(b) Full-time employment.
19		(c) Enlistment in the military.
20	(13)	"Principal" means a school administrator employed as the principal of a school, as provided in
21		Chapter 115C, Article 19 of the General Statutes, or the staff member with the highest decision-
22		making authority at a school, if there is no principal.
23	<u>(14)</u>	"Standard Course of Study" means the plan of education and standard course of study that has been
24		developed and approved by the State Board of Education in accordance with G.S. 115C-12(9c) and
25		Chapter 115C, Article 8, Part 1 of the General Statutes. The Standard Course of Study defines the
26		content standards for each grade level or proficiency level for each high school course to provide a
27		uniform set of learning standards for every public school in North Carolina. These standards define
28		what a student is expected to know and be able to do by the end of each school year or high school
29		course so that the student is prepared for the student's postsecondary plans.
30		
31	History Note:	Authority G.S. 115C-12(9b); 115C-81(b)(4); N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec. 5;
32		<u>G.S. 115C-12(9c); 115C-12(9d); 115C-81.5; 115C-81.25; 115C-81.45; 115C-81.90;</u>
33		<u>115C-83.3; 115C-83.31; 115C-83.32; 115C-106.3;</u>
34		Eff. December 1, 1999;
35		Amended Eff. January 2, 2006; April 1, 2005. <u>2005;</u>
36		<u>Readoption Eff. January 1, 2025.</u>

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06D .0503

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

On page 5, line 3, is "CTE" defined somewhere? If not, spell it out or define it here.

16 NCAC 06D .0503 is readopted with changes as published in 39 NCR 168-172 as follows:

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3 16 NCAC 06D .0503 STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

4 (a) In order to graduate and receive a high school diploma, public school students shall meet the requirements of

5 Paragraph (e) of this Rule and shall attain passing scores on competency tests adopted by the SBE and administered
 6 by the LEA. The passing score for the competency test, which is the same as grade-level proficiency as set for thin

7 Rule

8 .0502 of this Subchapter, shall be level III or higher.

9 (b) Students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements but who fail the competency tests shall receive

10 a certificate of a chievement and transcript and shall be allowed by the LEA to participate in graduation exercises.

11 (c) Special education students, other than students who are following the occupational course of study in Paragraph

12 (e)(1)(D) of this Rule, may apply in writing to be exempted from taking the competency tests. Before it approves

13 the request, the LEA must assure that the parents, or the child if a ged 18 or older, understand that each student must

14 pass the competency tests to receive a high school diploma.

15 (d) Any student who has failed to pass the competency tests by the end of the last school month of the year in which

16 the student's class graduates may receive additional remedial instruction and continue to take the competency tests

17 during regularly scheduled testing until the student reaches maximum school age. Special education students who are

18 following the occupational course of study in Paragraph (e)(1)(D) of this Rule shall not be required to pass the

19 competency test or the exit exam referred to in 16 NCAC 06D .0502(d)(2) in order to graduate and receive a

20 diploma.

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- 21 (e) In addition to the requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, students must successfully complete 20 course units
- 22 in grades 9-12 as specified below.
- 23 (1) Effective with the class entering ninth grade for the first time in the 2000-2001 school year, students
 24 shall select one of the following four courses of study:

25	NOTE: All students are encouraged, but not required, to include at least one elective course in arts
26	education. Unless included as career/technical education credits in the career preparation course of
27	study, courses in R.O.T.C. qualify for credit as electives in any of the courses of study.

28 (A) career preparation, which shall include:

(i) four credits in English language arts, which shall be English I, II, III, and IV;

(ii) three credits in mathematics, one of which shall be algebra I (except as limited by G.S. 115C-81(b));

(iii) three credits in science, which shall include biology, a physical science, and earth/environmental science;

34 (iv) three credits in social studies, which shall be Civics and Economics, U.S. history,
 35 and World history:

36 (v) one credit in health and physical education;

1	(vi)	-four credits in career/technical education, which shall be in a career concentration
2			or pathway that leads to a specific career field and which shall include a second-
3			level (advanced) course; or four credits in one of the four disciplines in arts
4			education: theatre, music, visual arts, or dance; or four credits in R.O.T.C.;
5	(vii)	-two elective credits; and
6	(viii)	-other credits designated by the LEA.
7	(B) c	ollege	technical preparation, which shall include:
8	(i)	four credits in English language arts, which shall be English I, II, III, and IV;
9	(ii)	-three credits in mathematics, which shall be either algebra I, geometry, and algebra
10			${\rm H}; or a {\rm lgebra} {\rm I}, {\rm technical mathematics} {\rm I}, {\rm and} {\rm technical mathematics} {\rm H}; or integrated$
11			mathematics I, II, and III;
12	(iii) ——	three credits in science, which shall include biology, a physical science, and
13			earth/environmental science;
14	(iv) —	three credits in social studies, which shall be Civics and Economics, U.S. history,
15			and World history:
16	(v)	one credit in health and physical education;
17	(vi)	four credits in career/technical education, which shall be in a career concentration
18			or pathway that leads to a specific career field and which shall include a second-
19			level (advanced) course;
20	(vii)	two elective credits; and
21	(viii)	-other credits designated by the LEA.
22	-		NOTE: A student who is pursuing this course of study may also meet the
23			requirements of a College/university course of study by completing one
24			additional mathematics course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite and, effective
25			with the class entering the ninth grade for the first time in the 2002-03 school year,
26			two credits in the same second language.
27	(C) c	ollege	/university preparation, which shall include:
28	(i)	four credits in English language arts, which shall be English I, II, III, and IV;
29	(ii)	-three credits in mathematics, which shall be a lgebra I, algebra II, and geometry or
30			a higher level course for which algebra II is a prerequisite; or integrated
31			ma thematics I, II, and III; however, effective with the class entering the ninth gade
32			for the first time in the 2002-03 school year, this requirement shall become four
33			credits in mathematics, which shall be algebra I, algebra II, geometry, and a higher
34			level course for which algebra II is a prerequisite; or integrated mathematics I, II,
35			III, and one course beyond integrated mathematics III;
36	(iii)	three credits in science, which shall include biology, a physical science, and
37			earth/environmental science;

1		(iv) three credits in social studies, which shall be Civics and Economics, U.S. history,
2		and World history:
3		(v) one credit in health and physical education;
4		(vi) two credits in the same second language or demonstration of proficiency in a
5		language other than English as determined by the LEA;
6		(vii) four elective credits, except that effective with the class entering the ninth gradefor
7		the first time in the 2002-03 school year, this shall be reduced to three elective
8		credits; and
9		(viii) other credits designated by the LEA.
10	(D)	occupational, which shall include:
11		(i) four credits in English language arts, which shall be Occupational English I, II, III,
12		and IV;
13		(ii) three credits in mathematics, which shall be Occupational Mathematics I, II, and
14		III;
15		(iii) two credits in science, which shall be Life Skills Science I and II;
16		(iv) two credits in social studies, which shall be Government/U.S. History and Self-
17		Advocacy/Problem Solving;
18		(v) one credit in health and physical education;
19		(vi) six credits in occupational preparation education, which shall be Occupational
20		Preparation I, II, III, IV, 300 hours of school-based training, 240 hours of
21		community-based training, and 360 hours of paid employment;
22		(vii) four vocational education elective credits;
23		(viii) computer proficiency as specified in the student's IEP;
24		(ix) a career portfolio; and
25		(x) completion of the student's IEP objectives.
26	(2) Effect	ive with the class entering ninth grade for the first time in the 2006-2007 school year, students
27	who a	re following the career preparation, college technical preparation, or college/university
28	prepar	ation courses of study shall meet the following exit standards:
29	(A)	successfully complete a senior project that is developed, monitored, and scored within the
30		LEA using state adopted rubrics; and
31	(B)	score at proficiency level III or above on the end-of course assessment for English I, U.S.
32		History, Biology, Civics and Economics, and Algebra I. A student who does not score at
33		proficiency level III or above on the end-of-course assessment for any of these courses but
34		who passes the course shall be offered the opportunity to retake the assessment no later than
35		three weeks from the receipt of assessment results. If the student does not score a tor above
36		proficiency level III on the retest, school officials shall apply the review process described in
37		Rule .0504 of this Section to provide focused intervention, a second retest opportunity, and a

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1	review of the student's documentation to determine whether the student has met the exit standard for the course. The principal shall make the final decision as to whether the student
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U	$\frac{has met the exit standard.}{has met the exit standard.}$
4	(3) LEAs may count successful completion of course work in the ninth grade at a school system which
5	does not award course units in the ninth grade toward the requirements of this Rule.
6	(4) LEAs may count successful completion of course work in grades 9-12 at a summer school session
7	toward the requirements of this Rule.
8	(5) LEAs may count successful completion of course work in grades 9-12 at an off-campus institution
9	toward the locally-designated electives requirements of this Rule. 23 NCAC 02C.0305 shall govern
10	enrollment in community college institutions.
11	(f) Effective with the class of 2001, all students must demonstrate computer proficiency as a prerequisite for high
12	school graduation. The passing scores for this proficiency shall be 47 on the multiple choice test and 49 on the
13	performance test. This assessment shall begin at the eighth grade. A student with disabilities shall demonstrate
14	proficiency by the use of a portfolio if this method is required by the student's IEP.
15	(g) Special needs students as defined by G.S. 115C-109, excluding gifted and pregnant, who do not meet the
16	requirements for a high school diploma shall receive a graduation certificate and shall be allowed to participate in
17	graduation exercises if they meet the following criteria:
18	(1) successful completion of 20 course units by general subjectarea (4 English, 3 math, 3 science, 3 social
19	studies, 1 health and physical education, and 6 local electives) under Paragraph (e) of this Rule. These
19 20	studies, I health and physical education, and 6 local electives) under Paragraph (c) of this Rule. These students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or
-	
20	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or
20 21	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and
20 21 22	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements.
20 21 22 23	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing
20 21 22 23 24	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each
20 21 22 23 24 25	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student student for a student student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirement first enrolls enrolls
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506.
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) — completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following:
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earm a total of 22 course credits, including the following: (1) Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of:
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following: (1) Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of: (A) English I;
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	 students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following: (1) Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of: (A) English II;
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2)
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following: (1) Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of: (A) English II; (B) English II; (C)
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2)
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology or United States history; and (2) completion of all IEP requirements. (a) To graduate from a public high school in North Carolina and be issued a high school diploma by the governing body of a public school unit, a student shall satisfy the requirements set forth in this Rule. The requirements for each student are determined by the school year in which the student first enrolls in Grade 9. The requirements for a student who has been identified as a child with a disability and whose IEP team has determined cannot satisfy the standard state graduation requirements are set forth in 16 NCAC 06D .0506. (b) A student who first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following: (1) Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of: (A) English II; (B) English II; (C)

1		(C) NC Math III; and
2		(D) A fourth course credit aligned with the student's postsecondary plans.
3		A student may, with the approval of the principal of the student's school, complete a CTE course
4		approved by DPI in lieu of NC Math III.
5	(3)	Three course credits in the content area of science, which shall consist of:
6		(A) Biology;
7		(B) One course in physical science; and
8		(C) One course in earth and environmental science.
9	<u>(4)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of social studies, which shall consist of:
10	1	(A) One course on founding principles of the United States, which shall be either American
11		History: Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics; or Founding Principles of the United
12		States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy;
13		(B) Economics and Personal Finance;
14		(C) One course in American history, which shall be either American History, American History
15		I, or American History II; and
16	1	(D) World History.
17	(5)	One course credit in the content area of health and physical education, including completion of
18	:	instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(10).
19	(6)	Two elective course credits in any combination of the following content areas:
20	<u>!</u>	(1) Career and technical education.
21		(2) Visual or performing arts education; or
22	<u>!</u>	(3) World languages education.
23	(7)	Four elective course credits in any combination of the following content areas:
24	1	(A) Career and technical education:
25	!	(B) Visual or performing arts education:
26	1	(C) Reserve Officer Training Corps ("ROTC"); or
27		(D) Any other content area.
28	(c) A student whe	o first enrolled in Grade 9 in the [2021-2022] 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025, or
29	<u>2025-2026</u> schoo	ol [year] years shall earn a total of 22 course credits, including the following:
30	<u>(1)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of:
31	1	(A) English I;
32		(B) English II:
33	!	(C) English III; and
34	1	(D) English IV
35	(2)	Four course credits in the content area of mathematics, which shall consist of:
36	!	$(A) \qquad \text{NC Math I:} $
37	<u> -</u>	$(B) \qquad \text{NC Math II};$

1		(C) NC Math III; and
2		(D) A fourth course credit aligned with the student's postsecondary plans.
3		A student may, with the approval of the principal of the student's school, complete a CTE course
4		approved by DPI in lieu of NC Math III.
5	(3)	Three course credits in the content area of science, which shall consist of:
6		(A) Biology;
7		(B) One course in physical science; and
8		(C) One course in earth and environmental science.
9	<u>(4)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of social studies, which shall consist of:
10		(A) Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy;
11		(B) Economics and Personal Finance;
12		(C) American History; and
13		(D) World History.
14	(5)	One course credit in the content area of health and physical education, including completion of
15		instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(10).
16	<u>(6)</u>	Two elective course credits in any combination of the following content areas:
17		(A) Career and technical education.
18		(B) Visual or performing arts education; or
19		(C) World languages education.
20	<u>(7)</u>	Four elective course credits in any combination of the following content areas:
21		(A) Career and technical education;
22		(B) Visual or performing arts education;
23		(C) Reserve Officer Training Corps ("ROTC"): or
24		(D) Any other content area.
25	(d) A student w	ho first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2026-2027 school year or thereafter shall earn a total of 22 course
26	credits, includir	ng the following:
27	<u>(1)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of English and language arts, which shall consist of:
28		(A) English I;
29		(B) English II:
30		(C) English III; and
31		(D) English IV
32	<u>(2)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of mathematics, which shall consist of:
33		(A) NC Math I:
34		(B) NC Math II:
35		(C) NC Math III; and
36		(D) A fourth course credit aligned with the student's postsecondary plans.

1		A student may, with the approval of the principal of the student's school, complete a CTE course
2		approved by DPI in lieu of NC Math III.
3	<u>(3)</u>	Three course credits in the content area of science, which shall consist of:
4		(A) Biology;
5		(B) One course in physical science; and
6		(C) One course in earth and environmental science.
7	<u>(4)</u>	Four course credits in the content area of social studies, which shall consist of:
8		(A) Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy:
9		(B) Economics and Personal Finance:
10		(C) American History; and
11		(D) World History.
12	<u>(5)</u>	One course credit in the content area of health and physical education, including completion of
13		instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(10).
14	<u>(6)</u>	One course credit in the content area of computer science, as prescribed in G.S. 115C-81.90. A
15		student shall be exempt from this requirement if the student transfers from a nonpublic school or a
16		school in another state to a North Carolina public school after completion of Grade 11, or if the
17		student has been identified as a child with [<mark>disabilities</mark>] a disability and the student's IEP team
18		determines that the student's disability would prevent the student from completing the course credit.
19	<u>(7)</u>	Two elective course credits in any combination of the following content areas:
20		(A) Career and technical education.
21		(B) Visual or performing arts education; or
22		(C) World languages education.
23	<u>(8)</u>	Three elective courses any other content area.
24	(e) A student w	ho first enrolled in Grade 9 in the 2025-2026 school year shall have earned at least one course credit
25	in visualor perf	forming arts from Grade 6 through 12. A student shall be exempt from this requirement if the student
26	transfers from	a nonpublic school or a school in another state to a North Carolina public school in Grade 9 or
27	therea fter and the	he requirement would prevent the student from graduating with the cohort of students to which the
28	student was as	signed upon transfer.
29	<u>(f) In determini</u>	ng whether a student who is the child of a military family has satisfied the requirements established
30	by this Rule, the	e governing body of a public school unit shall consider and comply with all requirements of the
31	Interstate Com	pact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, codified at G.S. 115C-407.5.
32		
33	History Note:	Authority G.S. 115C-12(9b); 115C-81(b)(1); N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec. 5;
34		<u>G.S. 115C-12(9c); 115C-12(9d); 115C-81.5; 115C-81.25; 115C81.45; 115C-81.90;</u>
35		<u>115C-83.31; 115C-83.32;</u>
36		Eff. December 1, 1999;
37		Amended Eff. January 2, 2006; April 1, 2005; September 1, 2002; December 1, 2001; December

 1
 1, 2000. 2000:

 2
 Readoption Eff. January 1, 2025.

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06D .0508

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

Regarding approval of alternative assessments (referenced on lines 9 through 17), are the process and standards for approval laid out in rule or statute?

On line 13, you've already defined SBE as State Board of Education, so you don't need it here, omit: "("SBE")".

On line 16, clarify which board shall be responsible for the expenses. Since the rule references both the board of directors for a charter school and the state board of education, I am not sure which is responsible.

1	16 NCAC 06D .0508 is	amended as published in 39 NCR 174 as follows:	
2			
3	16 NCAC 06D .0508	NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S <u>NORTH CAROLINA</u> READ TO ACHIEVE	
4		PROGRAM	
5			
6	(a) Local education agen	cies (LEAs) The governing board of each public school unit shall enact third grade adopt	
7	retention and promotion	policies for students in Grade 3 that are consistent with G.S. 115C-83.1, 83.3, and 83.7.	
8	Chapter 115C, Article 8	, Part 1a of the General Statutes.	
9	(b) Pursuant to G.S. 115	C-83.3(2), LEAs shall use the Read to Achieve test as the alternative assessment in-	
10	connection with G.S. 115	C 83.7 and 83.8. For the purpose of implementing the requirements of Chapter 115C,	
11	Article 8, Part 1a of the C	General Statutes, local school administrative units shall utilize the alternative assessment	
12	approved by the State E	Board of Education in accordance with G.S. 115C-83.3.	
13	(c) The board of directors	s for a charter school may submit for approval by the State Board of Education ("SBE") an	
14	alternative assessment of	its choice for use in satisfying the requirements of Chapter 115C, Article 8, Part 1a of the	
15	General Statutes, provided that the board does so no later than June 30 prior to the start of the school year in which it		
16	intends to use the alternat	tive a ssessment. The board shall be responsible for any expenses associated with utilization	
17	of the alternative assess	ment.	
18	(d) For purposes of suppl	emental tutoring offered in a ccordance with G.S. 115C-83.8(e), a student is identified as	
19	"retained twice" if the student was retained once in Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3, and was retained		
20	again in Grade 3 either by	y placement in a Grade 3 class or a combined Grades 3 and 4 class in which the student	
21	received Grade 3 instruc	ction in reading.	
22			
23	History Note:	Authority G.S. <u>115C-12;</u> 115C-83.1; 115C-83.3; 115C-83.7; <u>115C-83.7A;</u> 115C-83.8;	
24		<u>115C-83.10;</u>	
25		Eff. July 1, 2014. <u>2014:</u>	
26		Amended Eff. January 1, 2025.	
27			
28			

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06G .0304

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

The form for this rule is not signed. Please provide a signed form.

16 NCAC 06G .0304 is readopted as published in 38:23 NCR 1504 as follows:

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3 16 NCAC 06G .0304 <u>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN</u> DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

- 4 (a) In the event a If a local board of education (board) does not accept a school's improvement plan within 60 days
- 5 a fter the school principal initially submitted the plan to the board, the local board or the school (hereinafter collectively)
- 6 <u>"the parties"</u> may request the SBE to mediate the disagreement shall have 30 days to file a request with the SBE to
- 7 resolve any disagreement over the plan. The request shall be signed by either the board chair or the principal. The
- 8 principal shall represent the position of the school improvement team. The request shall include the school's proposed
- 9 improvement plan, the board's proposed changes to that plan, and a summary of the disputed issues.
- 10 (b) Either the principal of the school or the local board of education may submit a request for mediation to the
- 11 Department, office of instructional and accountability services.
- 12 (c) The request shall summarize the dispute issues. Both the principal of the school and the chair of the local board of
- 13 education shall sign the request.
- 14 (d) The office of instructional and accountability services shall review the request and shall inform the principal of
- 15 the school and the chair of the local board of education of the time and place for the mediation.
- 16 (e) The office of instructional and a ccountability services shall assign a mediator from persons who have been selected
- 17 as assistance team members pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.31.
- 18 (f) The mediator shall assist the parties to identify options for solving the disagreement.
- 19 (g) If the mediator determines that the parties can reach an agreement, the mediator shall suggest language and shall
- 20 write the agreement. Each party involved shall agree on each part.
- 21 (h) Each party shall sign the agreement. The agreement shall become a part of the school's improvement plan. The
- 22 school shall then submit the improvement plan to the local board of education for its approval.
- 23 The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's delegee shall appoint a decisionmaker to conduct
- 24 and control all the proceedings related to the dispute and resolve the dispute.
- 25 (c) The decision maker shall give the parties the opportunity to submit evidence, state their arguments, and respond to
- 26 the other party's evidence and arguments.
- 27 (d) If the parties reach a voluntary resolution of the dispute before the decisionmaker serves a signed school
- 28 improvement plan on the parties under Subparagraph (e), they shall serve a school improvement plan signed by all the
- 29 parties on the decisionmaker. The served plan shall become the school improvement plan.
- 30 (e) After the decisionmaker has given the parties the opportunity to submit evidence and arguments, the decisionmaker
- 31 shall create a school improvement plan that consists of those components on which the parties agree and those
- 32 components from either the school improvement team's proposed plan or the board's proposed plan that the
- 33 decisionmaker determines are most likely improve student performance.
- 34 (f) Once the decisionmaker has signed the plan and served it on the parties, the decisionmaker's plan shall become the
- 35 school improvement plan and shall constitute a final resolution of the dispute under G.S. 115C-105.20(b)(5).

1	(g) Any reques	ts, notices, or correspondence from the decisionmaker or any party required or permitted under this	
2	Rule shall be served on the other party and the decisionmaker in the manner prescribed in G.S. 1A-1, Rule 5 of the		
3	North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.		
4			
5	History Note:	Authority G.S. 115C-12(9)c4; <u>115C-105.20(b)(5);</u>	
6		Eff. November 1, 1997. <u>1997:</u>	
7		<u>Readoption Eff. January 1, 2025.</u>	

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06G .0307

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

The form for this rule is not signed. Please provide a signed form.

16 NCAC 06G .0307 is readopted with changes as published in 38:23 NCR 1504 as follows:

2	
3	16 NCAC 06G .0307 LOCAL BOARD COOPERATION WITH ASSISTANCE TEAMS
4	(a) When performing its duties under G.S. 115C-105.38, each assistance team appointed by the SBE shall act in an
5	advisory capacity to local school personnel, local school boards, and the SBE.
6	b Local boards of education and local school employees shall cooperate with assistance teams in the performance of
7	their duties. duties under G.S. 115C-105.38 and shall comply with all assistance team requests for access to
8	information, documents, students, personnel and meetings.
9	(c) Members of the assistance teams shall be subject to all confidentiality requirements that apply to local school
10	employees.
11	(d) In the event of a disagreement between the assistance team and the school improvement team, the assistance team
12	may request help from the central office and the local board of education.
13	(e) In carrying out its duty to evaluate employees, members of the assistance team shall:
14	(1) be familiar with and follow the provisions of G.S. 115C-326;
15	(2) use the appropriate form of the performance evaluation for the category of personnel being evaluated,
16	such as teachers, support personnel, and administrators;
17	(3) share its evaluation and recommendations with each employee and the employee's supervisor; and
18	(4) notify the SBE of the evaluations for an employee who receives two consecutive evaluations by the
19	assistance team that include findings and recommendations regarding the employee's inadequate
20	performance.
21	(f) An assistance team that is assigned by the SBE to a low-performing school may at any time recommend to the SBE
22	that a teacher, assistant principal, director, or supervisor be dismissed or demoted for one or more of the grounds
23	established in G.S. 115C-325(e)(1). The SBE shall provide written notice to the employee of the grounds for the
24	recommendation for dismissal or demotion.
25	(g) In reviewing evaluations of a local school employee, the SBE may deem the evaluations of the assistance team to
26	supersede previous evaluations of the employee.
27	
28	History Note: Authority G.S. 115C-12(9)c4;
29	Eff. January 2, 1998. <u>1998:</u>
30	<u>Readoption Eff. January 1, 2025.</u>

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06G .0308

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

The form for this rule is not signed. Please provide a signed form.

1	16 NCAC 060	6.0308 is readopted as published in 38:23 NCR 1505 as follows:	
2 3	16 NCAC 06G .0308 DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES OF LOW PERFORMING		
4	SCHOOLS		
5	(a) At any hearing conducted by a panel of the <u>SBE State Board of Education (SBE)</u> pursuant to the provisions of G.S.		
6	(a) for any nearing conducted by a panetor the <u>BBB State Doard of Education (SDE</u>) pursuant to the provisions of <u>BBB</u> 115C-325(q)(1), (q)(2), or (q)(2a), G.S. 115C-325(q) and G.S. 115C-325.11, the panel shall sit as an impartial tribunal		
7	to receive evidence and to decide on the basis of that evidence based on a preponderance of that evidence whether the		
8	principal, assistant principal, teacher, supervisor, or director, <u>or superintendent hereafter (hereinafter</u> referred to as		
9	"the employee," employee") shall be reinstated, demoted, or dismissed. The assistance team assigned to the school or		
10	<u>district</u> where the employee was a ssigned shall present the case a gainst the employee with the a ssistance of any staff		
11	or legal counse	el appointed by the SBE.	
12	(b) Both the e	mployee and the assistance team shall have the right:	
13	(1)	to be represented by counsel at the hearing;	
14	(2)	to subpoena witnesses and documents;	
15	(3)	to examine and cross-examine witnesses under oath; and	
16	(4)	to present relevant evidence using witnesses and documents.	
17	(c) The panel of the SBE which conducts the hearing shall:		
18	(1)	give written notice to the parties of the time and place of the hearing;	
19	(2)	make a complete record of the evidence received during the hearing; and	
20	(3)	issue subpoenas for witnesses and documents on behalf of any party to the proceedings; and	
21	(4)	enter any procedural orders-make any procedural decisions.	
22	(d) In any hea	ring pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-325(q)(2), or (q)(2a), <u>G.S. 115C-325(q) and</u>	
23	<u>115C-325.11,</u>	the assistance team shall have the burden of proof but, in accordance with G.S 115C-325(g)	
24	or 115C-325.11, the findings and recommendations of the assistance team shall be substantial evidence of		
25	the inadequate	e performance of the employee.	
26	(e) The panel'	s decision shall contain:	
27	<u>(1)</u>	findings of fact;	
28	<u>(2)</u>	conclusions of law;	
29	<u>(3)</u>	a description of any disciplinary actions to be imposed on the employee; and	
30	<u>(4)</u>	a statement that the employee may file a notice of appeal to the full SBE within 10 days of receipt	
31		of decision by mailing the notice to the State Board of Education's Office of General Counsel, 6301	
32		Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6301., and emailing a copy of the notice of appeal to Office	
33		of General for the State Board of Education.	
34		mployee or the assistance team may within 10 days of notification of the panel's decision give notice	
35		e full SBE. The <u>An</u> appeal from the SBE panel's decision to the full SBE shall be on the record. record.	
36		ents by counsel except in the form of In accordance with a schedule set by the SBE, the employee may	
37	<u>submit a</u> writte	en briefs-of no more than 25 pages 8,750 words. The assistance team may file a response of no more	

1	<u>than 8,750 word</u>	ls within seven business days after service of the employee's brief. Word counts shall conform to Rule		
2	28(j) of the North Carolina Rules of Appellate Procedure and parties shall certify their word counts on the last page			
3	of any brief. The SBE shall consider the appeal at its next regularly-scheduled meeting that is at least 20 days following the set of the set o			
4	<u>after</u> receipt of	after receipt of notice of the appeal and shall render a decision within 30 days after that meeting is a djourned, unles		
5	the SBE determines that good cause, as defined by 26 NCAC 03 .0118, exists to extend the period those periods			
6	the <u>SBE and all the</u> parties agree to extend the any period. The members of the panel which sat and that decided			
7	case shall not be excluded from the full SBE hearing may fully participate in the appeal. The full SBE shall decide the			
8	appeal based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record. The SBE's decision shall include findings of fa			
9	conclusions of law, and a description of any disciplinary actions to be imposed on the employee. Appeal from the SB			
10	decision shall be in accordance with G.S. 150B. Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.			
11	(g) If Before the SBE appoints an interim superintendent, revokes thea superintendent's license, or dismisse			
12	terminates the contract of thea superintendent pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.39(c)(2), the SBE shall provide th			
13	superintendent with notice of how the superintendent has failed to cooperate with the assistance team or has otherwise			
14	hindered the school's ability to improve. The superintendent shall have ten days to deliver a written response to the			
15	<u>charges.</u> the su	perintendent shall not have the right to a hearing under this Rule but shall have the right to fik a		
16	contested case petition pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 150B. If the SBE decides to revoke the superintendent?			
17	license or terminate the superintendent's contract. The the SBE shall make written findings to support those actions			
18	any of these actions taken pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-105.39(c). The SBE's decision shall constitute a			
19	final agency action subject to review under Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.			
20	(h) If the SBE revokes or refuses to renew a teacher's license pursuant to G.S. 115C-296(d), the procedures set forth			
21	in 16 NCAC 6C .0312 shall apply. Subchapter 06C, Section .0600 shall apply.			
22	(i) Any requests, notices, or correspondence from the SBE or parties required or permitted under this Rule shall be			
23	served on the SBE and any other party in the manner prescribed in G.S. 1A-1, Rule 5 of the North Carolina Rules of			
24	Civil Procedure	<u>.</u>		
25				
26	History Note:	Authority G.S. 115C-12(9)c4.; 115C 325(q); 115C-325.11; <u>115C-105.39(b); 115C-105.39(c);</u>		
27		Eff. January 2, 1998;		
28		Amended Eff. August 1, 1999. <u>1999:</u>		
29		<u>Readoption Eff. January 1, 2025.</u>		

AGENCY: State Board of Education

RULE CITATION: 16 NCAC 06G .0317

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: December 6, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following changes be made:

The form for this rule is not signed. Please provide a signed form.

On page 2, line 31, you appear to have an errant hyphen between that and the. Change to "that the <u>that the</u>".

On page 2, line 32, the term "faithfully" appears out of place. Do you just mean "has the ability to faithfully implement"? If not, what does this mean?

On page 3, line 25, you have "The SBE may approve". May is a problematic word in rules, are there standards somewhere for when the SBE will or will not grant this extension? If not, replace with "will" or "shall".

1 16 NCAC 06G .0317 is adopted with changes as published in 38:23 NCR 1506–1507 as f	follows:
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2				
3	16 NCAC 06G .0317 SCHOOL REFORM MODELS			
4	(a) Definitions.			
5	(1)	"Academic Gain" means a school has achieved at least two of these benchmarks:		
6		(A)	the SBE has designated that the school meets or exceeds expected growth under G.S. $115C-$	
7			83.15(f);	
8		(B)	50% of the subgroups for which the SBE reports growth scores under GS $115C-83.15(d2)$	
9			have a status of meets or exceeds expected growth; or	
10		(C)	the school has realized a net increase in its achievement score during any five-year cycle	
11			under the restart model.	
12	(2)	"Achie	vement Score" means the overall achievement score as defined in G.S. 115C-83.15(b).	
13	(3)	"Applie	cation" means a written request signed by the chair and superintendent of the local school	
14		admini	strative unit (LSAU) to implement a SRM that includes the name of the school to be operated	
15		under the SRM, the year in which the LSAU intends to implement the SRM, and a commitment to		
16		faithfully implement the Reform Implementation Plan (RIP) proposed for the school.		
17	(4)	"Conti	nually Low Performing School" (CLPS) is defined in G.S. 115C-105.37A(a).	
18	(5)	"Educa	ation Management Organization" (EMO) is defined in 16 NCAC 06G .0523.	
19	(6)	"Indica	ation of Growth" means the designation of growth as defined in G.S. 115C-83.15(f).	
20	(7)	"Low Performing School" is defined in G.S. 115C-105.37(a).		
21	(8)	"Restart Model" is defined in G.S. 115C-105.37B(a)(2).		
22	(9)	``School Reform Model" (SRM) means a ``transformation model," ``restart model," or ``turnaround means a ``transformation model," ``restart model," ``resta		
23		modeľ	,	
24	(10)	"Trans	formation Model" is defined in G.S. 115C-105.37B(a)(1).	
25	(11)	"Turna	round Model" is defined in G.S. 115C-105.37B(a)(3).	
26	(b) A LSAU that wants to implement a transformation model in a CLPS shall submit to the State Board of Education			
27	7 (SBE) an application and an RIP that:			
28	(1)	describ	es how the LSAU will implement improvements in the four a reas critical to transforming a	
29		CLPS 1	isted in G.S. 115C-105.37B(a)(1);	
30	(2)	specifie	es the goals for increasing the achievement score, growth score, and subgroup growth scores	
31		in the s	school;	
32	(3)	include	es a proposed budget detailing the revenues and expenditures necessary to implement the RIP;	
33		and		
34	(4)		es a timeline for implementing the RIP.	
35	(c) A LSAU that wants to implement a restart model in a CLPS shall submit to the SBE an application and an RIP			
36	that:			

1	(1)	describes how the LSAU will support the school in providing each student with the opportunity for		
2		a sound basic education;		
3	(2)	specifies the goals for increasing the achievement score, growth score, and subgroup growth scores		
4		in the school;		
5 6	(3)	describes how the LSAU will utilize operational flexibilities to increase academic achievement in the school;		
7	(4)	identifies the administrative barriers, such as teacher turnover, it believes contributed to the school's		
, 8	(1)	identification as a CLPS, and sets standards for measuring progress in reducing those barriers;		
9	(5)	states whether the LSAU will contract with an educational management organization ("EMO") to		
10		implement the restart model and provide:		
11		(A) the name, address, email, and telephone number for the EMO;		
12		(A) the maine, address, email, and telephone number for the EWO,(B) the website for the EMO;		
13		(C) an explanation of how the services of the EMO will contribute to improved growth scores		
13 14		and achievement scores at the school;		
15	(6)	incudes a proposed budget outlining the revenues and expenditures necessary to implement the RIP;		
16	(7)	includes a timeline for implementing the RIP; and		
17	(8)	includes a written commitment to implement the restart model for the duration of the five-year		
18	(-)	monitoring cycle described in paragraph (g) of this Rule.		
19	(d) An LSAU that wants to implement a turnaround model in a CLPS shall submit to the SBE an application and an			
20	RIP that:	1 11		
21	(1)	describes the new governance structure to be implemented in the school;		
22	(2)	specifies the goals for increasing the achievement score, growth score, and subgroup growth scores		
23		in the school;		
24	(3)	describes the procedures that LSAU will use when removing staff, including due process protections		
25	(-)	where required by law;		
26	(4)	includes a proposed budget outlining the revenues and expenditures necessary to implement the		
27		RIP; and		
28	(5)	includes a timeline for implementing the RIP.		
29	(e) If an LSAU determines that no SRM has been or would be effective in removing the CLPS designation or otherwise			
30	concludes that closure of the CLPS is appropriate, it may close the school in accordance with G.S. 115C-72.			
31	(f) The SBE shall authorize the LSAU to implement the requested SRM if the SBE determines that the LSAU has the			
32	ability to faithfully implement the RIP and the LSAU is likely to operate the school in an educationally and			
33	economically sound manner to improve student learning. The LSAU shall operate the school under the authorized			
34	SRM until the SBE refuses to continue or removes the authorization.			
35	(g) An LSAU that has been authorized to implement a transformation or turnaround model shall submit an annual			
36	report to DPI by December 1 of each year describing and documenting changes in the school's growth score and			
37	achievement s	core within the preceding school year.		

1 (h) An LSAU that has been authorized to implement restart model shall: 2 include the operational flexibilities described in the RIP and any revisions to the RIP as action steps (1)3 in the School Improvement Plan, specifying the school year(s) in which the operational flexibilities 4 are to be utilized, and submit the School Improvement Plan to the SBE for review and approval in 5 accordance with G.S. 115C-105.37A(a); 6 by December 1st of the second year and every year after, submit an annual report that shall include (2) 7 descriptions and documentation of how the school utilized the operational flexibilities authorized in 8 the restart model in the past year and how it intends to utilize a uthorized operational flexibilities in 9 the future; and 10 by January 31st of year five of any five-year restart model cycle submit a report describing and (3) 11 documenting: 12 (A) all policies, guidelines, or directives it adopted to implement the restart model; 13 **(B)** all changes in growth scores and a chievement scores along with the LSAU's explanation 14 for those changes; and 15 (C) all efforts to reduce administrative barriers identified in the RIP and all measurable changes 16 to those barriers attributable to those efforts. 17 (i) Upon the LSAU's request, the SBE may reduce the reporting requirements in paragraph (h), if the SBE determines 18 that the reduced reporting requirements would not compromise the SBE's ability to make decisions regarding the 19 implementation of the restart model in the school. The SBE retains the authority to require LSAU's to report any 20 information relevant to SBE decisions regarding the implementation of the restart model in the school. 21 (i) If an LSAU desires to continue to operate a school that has an indication of growth of not metand a net negative 22 achievement score from Year 1 to Year 4 of any five-year cycle under the restart model, the LSAU shall submit an 23 application for continued authorization by February 28th a long with a revised RIP that a ddresses the perceived causes 24 of the decline in the school's growth score and achievement score. The application shall include a commitment to 25 cooperate with oversight and support from DPI during the term of the restart model. The SBE may approve the 26 application and continue the authorization for a period up to five-years if the SBE determines the school is more likely 27 to a chieve progress under the revised RIP than it is if the application for reauthorization is denied. If the SBE approves 28 the application for continued authorization, the LSAU shall, by May 31st of the school year following said approval 29 and each year thereafter, submit evidence of how the LSAU has supported the school's operation under the restart 30 model and use of operational flexibilities have helped to improve its growth and achievement scores. 31 (k) If, at the end of Year 5, a school has realized academic gain, the LSAU may submit an application by February 32 28th to continue operating the school under the restart model with the same RIP or a revised RIP. The SBE may 33 approve the application and continue the authorization for another five-year cycle unless the SBE determines that 34 continuing to operate the school under the restart model is likely to result in a lower indication of growth or 35 achievement scores. 36 (1) If, at the end of Year 5, a school is no longer a CLPS and the SBE has determined that the school has met or 37 exceeded growth under 115C-83.15(f), the LSAU may submit an application by February 28th to continue operating

- 1 the school under the approved restart model the same RIP or a revised RIP. The SBE may approve the application and
- $2 \qquad \text{continue the authorization for another five-year cycle unless the SBE determines that continuing to operate the school} \\$

3 under the SRM is likely to result in lower indication of growth or achievement scores.

4 (m) The SBE may refuse to continue or remove a uthorization to operate a school under a SRM whenever it determines
 5 that:

6	(1)	the school has failed to realize the academic goals in the RIP and the failure to reduce administrative
7		barriers that contributed to the school's identification as a CLPS means the school is unlikely to
8		realize those goals within the next two years;
9	(2)	the LSAU has failed to comply with applicable state or federal laws, has failed to provide the SBE
10		with required reports, or failed to submit the School Improvement Plan for SBE approval as required
11		in (h)(1) of this Rule;
12	(3)	a school operating under the restart model has failed to meet expected growth under GS 115C-
13		83.15(f) and the school has demonstrated a net negative change in its a chievement score after Year
14		4 of any five-year cycle and is unlikely to realize academic gain within the next two years;
15	(4)	the LSAU requests removal of the authorization and the SBE determines that the school is more
16		likely to realize greater growth scores or a chievement scores without the authority to operate under
17		the approved SRM; or
18	(5)	if the LSAU continues to operate the school under the approved SRM, the school is likely to fail to
19		meet expected growth under G.S. 115C-83.15(f) and realize lower achievement scores in the next
20		two years.
21		
22	History Note:	Authority G.S. 115C-105.37B(b);
23		Eff. November 1, 2024. January 1, 2025.