



**NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Maurice "Mo" Green, Superintendent of Public Instruction

www.dpi.nc.gov

March 18, 2025

**TO** LEA Superintendents  
Charter School Directors

**FROM** Michael Maher, Chief Accountability Officer *MM*  
Division of Accountability

Tammy L. Howard, Senior Director *TLH*  
Office of Accountability and Testing

Carol Ann Hudgens, Senior Director *CAH*  
Office of Exceptional Children

**1.0 PERCENT EXTENSION WAIVER REQUEST DENIED**

On February 27, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) notified the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction the state's request for a one-year extension waiver to assess more than 1.0 percent of students with an alternate assessment aligned with alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAAS) as part of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) is denied. The USED cited that in the 2023–24 school year there was an increase in mathematics and science alternate assessment participation compared to the 2022–23 school year.

Waivers from exceeding the 1.0 percent participation limit are based on a state showing substantial progress in decreasing the overage percentage. As a response to this requirement, the state will conduct a targeted monitoring activity with public school units (PSUs) exceeding the 1.0 percent participation limit to assist with identifying eligible students for instruction on the appropriate content standards and participation in the appropriate assessment.

The Office of Exceptional Children and the Office of Accountability and Testing will hold two virtual office hour opportunities on Friday, March 21, 2025, to respond to general questions regarding the 1.0 Percent Extension Waiver denial.

Date: Friday, March 21, 2025

Times: 10:00–10:30 a.m. and 3:00–3:30 p.m.

Direct Webex link to office hours: <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens>

Specific details regarding the targeted monitoring activity will be communicated at a later date. Please share the information for the virtual office hours, as appropriate, with exceptional children and accountability/testing staff. We look forward to the opportunity to provide information and additional clarification.

MM:TLH:CAH:mmmb

**OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND TESTING**

6307 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699 | (984) 236-2710

c: Maurice Green, State Superintendent  
Maria Pitre-Martin, Deputy State Superintendent  
Derrick Jordan, Chief Operations Officer, Division of Operations  
Alex Charles, Senior Director, Office of Federal Programs  
Ashley Baquero, Director, Office of Charter Schools  
Dreama McCoy, Section Chief, IDEA Supporting Teaching and Related Services  
Curtis Sonneman, Section Chief, Analysis and Reporting  
Shannon Jordan, Section Chief, Testing Policy and Operations  
Molly Britt, Education Testing and Accountability Consultant, Testing Policy and Operations  
Matthew Martinez, IDEA Consultant: Intellectual Disabilities  
Regional Accountability Coordinators  
Exceptional Children Administrators  
Public School Unit Test Coordinators