ESSA Defined Exception for Advanced Mathematics in Grade 8

In May 2017, the North Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) approved the use of flexibility afforded to states in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for 8th grade students who are enrolled in an NC Math 1 course. This flexibility allows grade 8 students to take only one mathematics summative assessment (i.e., NC Math 1 End-of-Course [EOC]), thus eliminating double testing for these students. With this flexibility, these students are required to take the NC Math 3 EOC test during high school, which will count for high school accountability.

Determination of the mathematics tests to be used in the accountability model for current year mathematics achievement (proficiency):

A. For students who are in membership in NC Math 1 for the first time in grades 9–11:
   i. Students have taken the Grade 8 Mathematics EOG.
   ii. Students take both the NC Math 1 EOC and the NC Math 3 EOC when they are in membership in these courses in high school; however, only the NC Math 1 EOC scores will be used as the high school mathematics proficiency measure for the school.
   iii. Students who transfer in from another state, private school, or homeschool with an NC Math 1 credit earned in grades 9–11 will participate in the NC Math 3 EOC when they are in membership in the course, but the scores will not be included in the high school mathematics proficiency measure.

B. For students who are in membership in NC Math 1 for the first time in grade 8:
   i. Students will take the NC Math 1 EOC only.
   ii. Students will not take the Grade 8 Mathematics EOG.
   iii. All grade-level Mathematics EOG scores (grades 3–7 and grade 8 students who did not take NC Math 1) will be combined with 8th grade NC Math 1 EOC scores to calculate the school’s mathematics proficiency score.
   iv. For proficiency in the 2017–18 school year only, the NC Math 1 EOC scores of grade 9 students who took the NC Math 1 EOC in middle school in 2016–17 or earlier are banked to the students’ current high school.
   v. Beginning in 2018–19,
      a. The NC Math 3 EOC score will be the mathematics proficiency measure for these students in the high school in which they are enrolled in the NC Math 3 course.
      b. For students who transfer in from another state, private school, or homeschool with an NC Math 1 course credit earned in the students’ grade 8 year, the NC Math 3 EOC score will be the high school mathematics proficiency measure for the school in which they are enrolled in the NC Math 3 course.
C. For students repeating the NC Math 1 course for credit in grade 9 after taking NC Math 1 in grade 8 (refer to SBE policy CCRE-001):
   i. The NC Math 1 score is the proficiency measure for the school in which they were enrolled in grade 8.
   ii. Students must participate in the NC Math 3 EOC by the end of grade 11.
   iii. Students will follow the current SBE policy, *Repeating a Course for Credit* (CCRE-001), to determine if taking the NC Math 1 EOC is required again in grade 9. For students who take the NC Math 1 EOC again in grade 9, the test will not be used as the high school mathematics proficiency measure.

D. For students who participated in NC Math 1 before grade 8:
   i. The appropriate grade level mathematics EOG test is the mathematics proficiency measure for middle and elementary school students in membership in NC Math 1.
   ii. NC Math 1 EOC is used as the grade 8 mathematics proficiency measure when the student is enrolled in grade 8. The student will not take the Grade 8 Mathematics EOG in their grade 8 year. The student will take the appropriate assessment for the mathematics course which they are in enrolled in grade 8 (i.e. NC Math 2 NCFE or NC Math 3 EOC).
   iii. NC Math 3 EOC is these students’ mathematics proficiency measure for high schools.

**Mathematics tests used for participation when measuring the 95% participation requirement:**

A. The following assessments are combined at grade 8 to determine if a school met the 95% participation requirement for mathematics in each subgroup to including the All Students group:
   i. Grade 8 EOG,
   ii. NC Math 1 EOC for those in membership in NC Math 1 in grade 8, and
   iii. NC Math 1 for those who took the NC Math 1 EOC prior to grade 8.

B. The following assessments are combined at grade 11 to determine if a school met the 95% participation requirement for mathematics in each subgroup to including the All Students group:
   i. NC Math 1 (for students taking NC Math 1 for the first time in grades 9-11) and
   ii. NC Math 3 (for students who took NC Math 1 for the first time in grade 8 or earlier).
**Mathematics tests used for long-term goal calculations:**

A. The Mathematics Grades 3–8 long-term goals and measure of interim progress status for all subgroups, including the all students group, are calculated by combining the Grades 3–8 Mathematics EOG scores (at available grade levels) and the NC Math 1 EOC scores for grade 8 students (if applicable).

B. The Mathematics Grade 11 long-term goals and measure of interim progress status for all subgroups, including the all students group, will be calculated by combining the NC Math 1 EOC scores for those taking NC Math 1 for the first time in grades 9–11 and the NC Math 3 EOC scores for students taking NC Math 1 in middle school.

**Note:** Schools with non-traditional grade level configurations will have long-term goals and measures of interim progress for Mathematics Grades 3–8 and/or Mathematics Grade 11 depending on each school’s grade level configurations. Please see the business rules concerning long-term goals for more information.

**Mathematics tests used for school accountability growth calculations:**

Mathematics scores taken in the current accountability year are the scores used in school accountability growth calculations regardless of where the score is used for academic achievement (proficiency) calculations.

**Special rule for 2017–18 only:**
For students who took NC Math 1 in grade 8 in 2016–17 or before and are enrolled in NC Math 3 during the 2017–18 school year, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) will give high schools participation credit for the school year in which these students are in grade 11.

The inclusion of test scores in the accountability model and long-term goals is contingent upon satisfying the Partial Enrollment Business Rules.
**ESSA Defined Exception for Advanced Mathematics in Grade 8**

**Key:**
- **Orange** = Assessment included as the mathematics proficiency measure (accountability growth is included in the tested year only, not the banked year)
- **Blue** = Used to determine 95% participation rate and long-term goals
- **Yellow** = Assessment taken but not used in current year mathematics proficiency measure but included in accountability growth
- **Green** = Assessment taken but not used in accountability model; used for educator effectiveness growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EOGX</td>
<td>End-of-Grade Math at X grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC M1</td>
<td>NC Math 1 EOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC M3</td>
<td>NC Math 3 EOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC M1B</td>
<td>NC Math 1 EOC Banked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC M3B</td>
<td>NC Math 3 EOC Banked</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Math assessment pathways for students taking NC Math 1 for the first time during or after grade 8**

Starting in 2017–18 (NC Math 3 EOC not available until 2018–19)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EOG8</td>
<td>NCM1 in year taken</td>
<td>NCM3 in year taken</td>
<td>NCM1</td>
<td>NCM3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCM1</td>
<td>NCM3 in year taken</td>
<td>NCM1</td>
<td>NCM3</td>
<td>NCM1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCM1</td>
<td>NCM1</td>
<td>NCM3 in year taken</td>
<td>NCM3</td>
<td>NCM1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment is expected in grade level(s)/courses where students are in membership – Students who transfer from private, out-of-state, or homeschools and are awarded credit will follow the path in accordance with the grade level the credit is attributed.
### Math assessment pathways for students taking NC Math 1 for the first time before Grade 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Students in membership in NC Math 1 in Grade 7**

- **NCM1**
- **NCM2 if in membership**
- **NCM3 if not taken in Grade 8**

**Students in membership in NC Math 1 in Grade 6**

- **NCM1**
- **NCM2 if in membership**
- **NCM3 if in membership**

Assessment is expected in grade level(s)/courses where students are in membership – Students who transfer from private, out-of-state, or homeschools and are awarded credit will follow the path in accordance with the grade level the credit is attributed.

**This path is effective beginning in the 2017–18 school year. Therefore, banked scores from 2016–17 are applied accordingly.**