



Act 200 (R.252, H.3893) – Standards, Assessment and Accountability

The law amends the EAA accordingly by addressing standards, assessments and accountability.

Standards

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English language arts (ELA) and Math will be implemented in school year 2014-15. There will be a cyclical review of the standards being written by the SCDE writing teams on or before January 1, 2015 for purpose of adopting SC college and career readiness state standards in 2015-2016.

EOC COMMUNICATION

1. Standards Review Website: active July 11-September 30, 2014
<http://scstandards.org>
 - Open to all South Carolina citizens to offer comments on the current academic content standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
 - Results will be summarized and provided in full form to review panels, EOC, State Board, etc.
2. Review panels will meet October 2; October 28; November 6; November 12 in Columbia
 - Working meetings but all meetings will be open to public
 - Panels composed of content experts as well as parents (special ed), community members, and members of the business community
 - Panels will utilize resources during review including Common Core State Standards; all materials to be made public once approved through the committee process.

Assessments

The law removes SC from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and Smarter Balanced Assessment and prevents SC from administering Smarter Balanced Assessment. The law amends the administration of PASS in science and social studies so that all students in grades 4 through 8 will be assessed beginning 2014-15. Students in grade 3 will only be assessed in ELA and math beginning 2014-15.

The law establishes a process for moving forward with state assessment in ELA and math for all students in grades 3 through 8 and for students in grades 9 and 10, if funds are available:

- 2014-15 Paper and pencil format
- 2015-16 Paper and pencil or computer
- 2016-17 Computer for all students

The Executive Director of the Budget and Control Board is handling the procurement for the above assessment as well as a college and career readiness assessment (which will be given to every 11th grader along with WorkKeys.) The procurements must be completed by September 30, 2014. Neither the EOC nor State Board of Education will approve the assessments. A special panel was appointed to provide input during the RFP process.

EOC COMMUNICATION

1. WorkKeys flyer distribution

Accountability

New assessments will be implemented in 2014-15 and 2015-16, cannot be used to determine state report card ratings. Instead, the report cards issued for 2014-15 and 2015-16 will report on results only. The EOC will also recommend one system for state and federal accountability by fall of 2016.