



# HOUSE BILL 248: Eliminate NC Final Exam

**This Bill Analysis  
reflects the contents  
of the bill as it was  
presented in  
committee.**

2015-2016 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Education - K-12	<b>Date:</b>	April 28, 2015
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Holloway, Elmore, Whitmire	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kara McCraw
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to First Edition H248-CSTB-15		Committee Counsel

**SUMMARY:** *HB 248 would require the State Board of Education to eliminate use of the NC Final Exam to assess teachers' performance in relation to Standard 6 of the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation System, upon approval of an amendment to the current North Carolina Elementary and Secondary Education Act waiver.*

*The PCS would also require the elimination of the Analysis of Student Work process and clarifies the new assessment system for Standard 6.*

**CURRENT LAW:** North Carolina State Board of Education Policy GCS-A-016 (Policy Delineating Use of State-Designated Assessments for the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process) requires all public schools including traditional, charter, and regional schools, as a condition of an Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver to use certain tests to assess educators' performance in relation to Standard 6 of the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process and Standard Eight of the School Executive Evaluation Process.

Schools must use the End-of-Grade and End-of-Course tests required to be given as part of the ESEA accountability model for Standard 6. For elementary and middle schools, those tests are math and English Language Arts/Reading in grades 3-8, and science in grades 5 and 8. For high school those tests are Math I, English II, and Biology.

In addition, schools must also use NC Final Exams, K-3 Checkpoints, Career and Technical Education State Assessments, Analysis of Student Work, or locally developed processes for measuring student growth for Standard 6 purposes.

NC Final Exams are given in core subject areas of English, math, science, and social studies that do not have End-of-Grade and End-of-Course tests, and results of those tests are used to assess the performance of those educators for Standard 6. A NC Final Exam is the only final exam that may be given in the courses, and for high school students, the test must count as a minimum of 20% of the student's final grade.

Analysis of Student Work is a process to collect data to populate Standard 6 for educators teaching in grades or subjects where there is no End of Grade (EOG), End of Course (EOC), NC Final Exam, or Career Technical Education (CTE) assessment involving the collection of student work to document student growth.

North Carolina State Board of Education Policy TCP-C-006 (Policy on Standards and Criteria for Evaluation of Professional School Employees) provides that, in place of NC Final Exams and Analysis of Student Work, a local school administrative unit (LEAs) may use other assessments to measure student learning and determine the Standard 6 rating if the State Board of Education approves those assessments. Districts may also use school-wide growth values to determine the Standard 6 rating,

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except for End-of-Grade assessments and End-of-Course assessments for teachers who administer those assessments. LEAs must apply to the State Board for a waiver to use another process, such as school-wide growth values or a proposal for the use of other assessments to determine the Standard 6 ratings for educators in specific grades/subjects and courses.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The PCS for HB 248 would require, within 60 days of passage of the bill, that the Department of Public Instruction apply to the U.S. Department of Education for an amendment to the flexibility waiver granted to North Carolina under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act regarding use of certain assessment to assess teacher performance.

Specifically, the amendment would request an elimination of the NC Final Exam and the analysis of student work process currently a part of the waiver. Instead, the State Board of Education would adopt a policy providing that assessment of teacher performance for Standard 6 of the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation System be made through End of Grade assessments and End of Course assessments for teachers who teach at least 60% of their time in an End-of-Grade or End-of-Course tested subject, and school wide growth values for all other teachers.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** HB 248 would become effective when it becomes law, but the elimination of the NC Final Exam and analysis of student work process and new assessment system would become effective only upon approval of the waiver by the US Department of Education.