



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 8.15: Office of Learning Research Evaluation of Competency-Based Learning Programs

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 8.15

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Section 8.15 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) requires the Office of Learning Research at the North Carolina Collaboratory to study and evaluate the following programs:

- Community College Seamless Skills Initiative.
- Competency-Based High School/Healthcare and High-Tech Pathways Program.
- Lighthouse Math Project.
- Competency-Based Education and High School Redesign Strategic Network.
- North Carolina Competency-Based Education Innovation Grant Program.

The Office of Learning Research must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 15 in 2028, 2029, and 2030 on (i) the number of students engaging with the programs, (ii) the total amount of funds expended to implement, design, and operate the programs, and (iii) the effects on student achievement and learning outcomes.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

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Director



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