16 NCAC 06D .0309 is proposed for adoption as follows:

16 NCAC 06D .0309 REQUIREMENTS REGARDING END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS

(a) All eligible students shall participate in the administration of end-of-course assessments (standard administrations with or without accommodations or an alternate assessment). This rule shall apply to all public schools, including traditional, charter, and regional schools.

(b) Public schools shall include each student's end-of-course (EOC) assessment results in the student's permanent records and high school transcript.

(c) Public schools shall administer EOC assessments within the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction’s designated testing window.

(d) Public schools shall use results from all operational EOC assessments as a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of the student's final grade for each respective course with the exception of:

   (1) students following the Occupational Course of Study Pathway; English Learner (EL) students in their first year in a U.S. school; and

   (2) effective with the 2018–19 school year and beyond, all students enrolled in a course during the initial implementation year of the new assessment for that course where scores are not immediately available due to standard setting.

   (3) For these exceptions, public schools shall adopt policies regarding the use of EOC assessment results in assigning final grades.

(e) Public school students who are enrolled for credit in courses in which EOC assessments are required shall take the appropriate EOC assessment at the completion of the course.

(f) Public school students who are exempt from final exams by local board of education policy shall not be exempt from EOC assessments.

(g) Public school students shall take the appropriate EOC assessment the first time the student takes the course requiring the assessment.

(h) Public school students shall take the appropriate EOC assessment at the end of the course regardless of the grade level in which the course is offered.

(i) Public school students who are identified as failing a course for which an EOC assessment is required shall take the appropriate EOC assessment.

(j) Public school students may drop a course with a required EOC assessment within the first 10 days of enrollment in a semester block schedule or within the first 20 days of enrollment in a yearlong traditional schedule. Students who are enrolled for credit after the 10/20 days, regardless of course delivery (e.g., traditional classroom, NC Virtual Public School, vendor-based online) shall not drop a course with a required EOC assessment and shall participate in the appropriate EOC assessment at the completion of the course.

(k) Public school students enrolled in courses requiring the administration of the EOC assessment who previously obtained a proficient score on the appropriate EOC assessment may use the proficient score as a minimum of 20% of their final course grade or they may elect to retake the appropriate EOC assessment at the completion of the course and use the most recent score for the final grade calculation.
Authority G.S. 115C-12(9); 115C-174.11; 115C-174.12;

Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);