STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Special Education Directors
District Instructional Leaders

FROM: Peter Keup, J.D.
Director, Office of Special Education Services

DATE: September 6, 2023

RE: Proviso 1.76 and Formative Assessment for Students participating in SC Alt

As a reminder, districts must ensure all students in first through eighth grades are assessed using a state approved interim assessment tool during the fall, winter, and spring. School districts shall provide all interim and formative assessment data scores by grade and school to the Department of Education from the prior school year. The department is directed to compile the information received and submit a comprehensive report regarding performance on such assessments to the General Assembly by May 31 of the current fiscal year. Any school district failing to provide this data to the department shall have ten percent of their State Aid to Classrooms funding withheld until the data is provided.

For students with significant cognitive disabilities who are assessed with an alternate assessment, the student's Individualized Education Program team will determine what alternate assessment will be used to meet this mandate. If none of the approved list of reading and math assessments are appropriate, even with appropriate accommodations, then a rubric indicating student progress toward reading and math IEP goals will meet this requirement. Teachers should submit three data points by 5:00 p.m. (on or before December 4, 2023, on or before March 4, 2024, and on or before June 10, 2024) using the rubrics below.

Fall Formative Assessment of Student Progress through December 4, 2023
Winter Formative Assessment of Student Progress through March 4, 2024
Spring Formative Assessment of Student Progress through June 10, 2024

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For questions related to students participating in an alternate assessment, please contact Roberta Ford, reford@ed.sc.gov or Kim Watkins, kawatkins@ed.sc.gov .