



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: October 27, 2020

RE: Grading for End-of-Course Examination

State Board of Education Regulation 43-262 requires statewide End-of-Course Examination Program (EOCEP) assessments in Algebra 1, Biology, English 1 and 2, and United States History and the Constitution to count 20 percent of students' final grade. However, as outlined in the [memorandum](#) dated July 14, 2020, the South Carolina Department of Education is seeking a waiver from all federally-required accountability assessments and concomitant accountability requirements for the 2020–21 school year.

In the event that a waiver is not granted, and as a result of the historic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am utilizing the authority given to the State Superintendent under Act 135 to waive the 20 percent requirement for all EOCEP assessments taken in the 2020–21 school year (fall 2020, spring 2021, and summer 2021).

Unless a federal waiver is granted, districts must still administer the EOCEP assessments in the 2020–21 school year but may choose whether to include EOCEP scores in the calculation of students' final course grades. In other words, districts may determine what percentage, if any, the EOCEP will count toward a student's grade. In addition, teachers have discretion in counting any teacher-developed or curriculum based measurement in the calculation of students' grades consistent with school and district policy. In making such decisions, there should be uniformity within each district such that no subgroups of students protected by state and federal law are treated differently.

If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Hural at KHural@ed.sc.gov.