

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL 500  
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 5/1/19  
Third Edition Engrossed 5/7/19  
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/5/19

Short Title: Modify Advanced Math Course Enrollment.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 3, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
ADVANCED MATH COURSES OFFERED WHEN PRACTICABLE FOR GRADES SIX  
AND HIGHER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-81.36 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-81.36. **Advanced courses in mathematics.**

(a) When practicable, local boards of education shall offer advanced learning opportunities in mathematics in grades three through five, and advanced courses in mathematics in all grades ~~three-six~~ and higher. For the purposes of this section, advanced learning opportunities are those services and curricular modifications in mathematics for academically or intellectually gifted students approved as part of the local plan, as required by G.S. 115C-150.7.

(a1) When advanced learning opportunities are offered in mathematics in grades three through five, any student scoring at the highest level on the end-of-grade test shall, for the next school year, be provided advanced learning opportunities in mathematics approved for that student's grade level. No student who qualifies under this subsection shall be removed from the advanced learning opportunity provided to the student unless a parent or guardian of the student provides written consent for the student to be excluded or removed after being adequately informed that the student's placement was determined by the student's achievement on the previous end-of-grade test.

(b) When advanced courses are offered in ~~mathematics,~~ mathematics in grades six and higher, any student scoring ~~a level five at the highest level~~ on the end-of-grade or end-of-course test for the mathematics course in which the student was most recently enrolled shall be enrolled in the advanced course for the next mathematics course in which the student is enrolled. ~~A student in seventh grade scoring a level five on the seventh grade mathematics end-of-grade test shall be enrolled in a high school level mathematics course in eighth grade.~~ No student who qualifies under this subsection shall be removed from the advanced ~~or high school~~ mathematics course in which the student is enrolled unless a parent or guardian of the student provides written consent for the student to be excluded or removed from that ~~course-course~~ after being adequately informed that the student's placement was determined by the student's achievement on the previous end-of-grade or end-of-course test.

(c) By December 15, 2020, and annually thereafter, the Department of Public Instruction shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee containing data collected for the current school year on the number and demographics of students who were



1 eligible for advanced math courses, and of those students, the number and demographics of those  
2 who were placed in advanced math courses and were not placed in advanced math courses. The  
3 report shall include information on the type and format of advanced math courses provided and  
4 shall also include any feedback provided by local boards of education on the implementation of  
5 this section.

6 (d) The Department of Public Instruction shall provide guidance to local boards of  
7 education on how to best develop programming and courses to ensure all impacted students  
8 receive rigorous, academically appropriate instruction in mathematics."

9 **SECTION 2.** Each local board of education shall develop a plan to implement  
10 G.S. 115C-81.36(b), as amended by this act, to be submitted to the Superintendent of Public  
11 Instruction by January 15, 2020. At a minimum, the plan shall include the following:

- 12 (1) A list of each advanced math course offered in grades six and higher in each  
13 school. If a course is locally developed, it shall be identified as such.
- 14 (2) An explanation of staffing for advanced math courses, including an indication  
15 of how adequate staffing will be accomplished and any anticipated shortages  
16 in staffing or other staffing challenges. This explanation shall also include any  
17 anticipated coordination with community colleges or coordination between  
18 schools in order to provide appropriate instructors for each advanced math  
19 course.
- 20 (3) An estimate, based on student performance over the previous three years, of  
21 the expected increase in the number of students enrolled in advanced math  
22 courses for the 2020-2021 school year.

23 **SECTION 3.** The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall compile the plans  
24 submitted by each local board of education into a summary report to be submitted to the Joint  
25 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, along with any recommended changes, by March  
26 15, 2020.

27 **SECTION 4.** Local boards of education shall not be required to comply with  
28 G.S. 115C-81.36(b), as amended by this act, for the 2019-2020 school year.

29 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law and, except as otherwise  
30 provided, applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.