

New Hampshire Department of Education Assessment Waiver

On behalf of the State of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Department of Education (NH DOE) is requesting a waiver, pursuant to section 8401.020 U.S.C 7861, of section 1111(2)(B)(v)(I)(aa) of the Every Student Succeeds Act. Section 1111(2) ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS (B), which requires a State Educational Agency (SEA) to use the same academic achievement standards and assessments, respectively, for all public school children in the State.

The New Hampshire Department of Education (NH DOE) seeks this waiver in an effort to reconcile New Hampshire House Bill 166, relative to assessments administered to pupils in grade 3-8, signed by NH Governor Christopher Sununu, on June 5, 2017; effective August 4, 2017.

The NH DOE requests this waiver to allow for continued State and local receipt of Title I, Part A funding in good standing while we will also balance local governance, state-wide accountability, and federal requirements. This waiver is requested to begin in the 2017-2018 school year. The NH DOE will continue to ensure that a common statewide assessment in reading/language arts and mathematics is available for all students in grades 3-8, and once in high school; and that a common statewide assessment in science is available for all NH students, once in elementary school, once in middle school, and once in high school. Such assessments will continue to be designed to measure the full range of the State's rigorous academic content standards.

Public Comments:

The NH DOE now invites public comment on this waiver request. To submit comment, please email Saundra.MacDonald@doe.nh.gov by December 10, 2017. All public comment received by December 10, 2017 will be transmitted to the U.S. Department of Education to inform their consideration of New Hampshire's waiver request.