

**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440**

No Child Left Behind Updates

- Assessment
- Adequate Yearly Progress
- Program Improvement
- Highly Qualified Staff Provision
- Dissemination Requirements

Assessment

- **Testing Window** – The North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA) will be administered during a three-week testing window beginning October 22, 2007 through November 9, 2007. The administration dates for the North Dakota Alternate Assessment are October 22, 2007 through December 31, 2007.
- **Grades Tested** – The NDSA will be administered to grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11.
- **Content Areas** – The NDSA will include the content areas of reading/language arts and mathematics for the 2007-2008 school year. Science will be assessed for the second time. Only grades 4, 8, and 11 will take the science test.
- **Accommodations** – Accommodations are currently allowed for students on an Individual Education Plan (IEP), those who have a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, and those with Limited English Proficiency, as prescribed in the test coordinators' manual. Title I students are not entitled to accommodations.

The *Test Coordinator's Manual* is posted at www.dpi.state.nd.us/testing/assess/manual07.pdf on the department's website.

In addition, an Assessment Accommodations training module is available on the NDDPI website. See www.dpi.state.nd.us/testing/assess/training/accomodations.shtm for module, and www.dpi.state.nd.us/testing/assess/AppendE.pdf for the document that presents the 2007-2008 policy and procedures regarding assessment accommodations and modifications.

Questions concerning the NDSA should be addressed to Jean Newborg (jnewborg@nd.gov; (701) 328-2755).

Access all state assessment memos and other assessment information at: www.dpi.state.nd.us/testing/assess/index.shtm.

Adequate Yearly Progress

■ Subjects

The primary indicator for measuring a school's adequate yearly progress is student achievement in reading and mathematics. Student achievement is reported:

- ✓ As a composite score
- ✓ By selected student subgroups

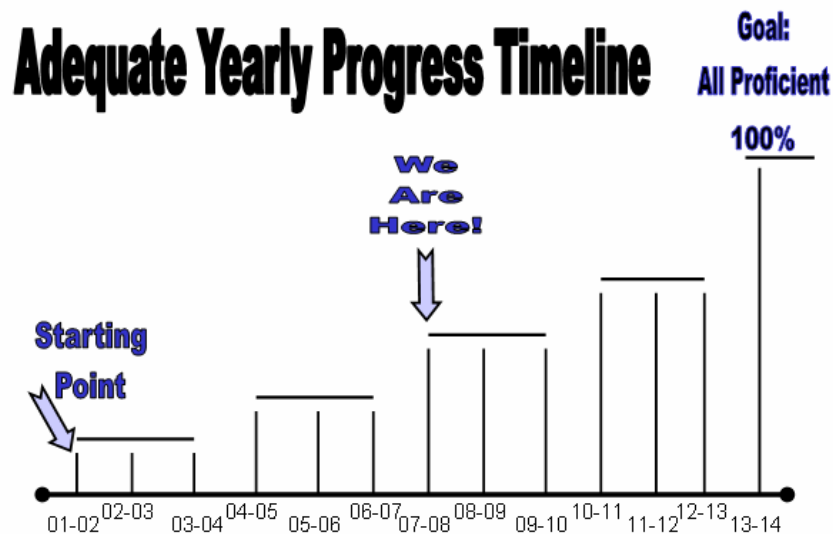
■ Grades Reflected

As required under the *No Child Left Behind* Act, the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports reflect grades 3-8 and grade 11 assessment results. **Science test results will not be included in the AYP report calculations.**

■ Tentative Timetable for Release of 2007-2008 AYP Data

- × Fall 2007– North Dakota students take the North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA)
- × February 2008 – Schools receive NDSA data directly from CTB
- × March 2008 – Schools receive North Dakota Alternate Assessment student reports
- × March 2008 – The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction merges data and validates information to create AYP reports
- × April 2008 – Preliminary School AYP reports released
- × April 2008 – Preliminary District AYP reports released

■ Adequate Yearly Progress Timeline



This year, 2007-2008, we move upward on the twelve year timeline toward 100% proficiency.

■ AYP Achievement Goals

State Intermediate Goals, 2002-2014

Goals for Percent Scoring Proficient and Advanced in Reading/Math Graduation and Attendance Rate Goals

| Subject/ Grades | School Years* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 01-02 | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 | 10-11 | 11-12 | 12-13 | 13-14 |
| Reading | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 65.1% | | | 73.8% | | | 82.6% | | | 91.3% | | | 100% |
| 8 | 61.4% | | | 71.1% | | | 80.7% | | | 90.4% | | | 100% |
| 11 | NA | | | 57.2% | | | 71.5% | | | 85.7% | | | 100% |
| 12 | 42.9% | | | NA | | | NA | | | NA | | | NA |
| Math | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 45.7% | | | 59.3% | | | 72.9% | | | 86.4% | | | 100% |
| 8 | 33.3% | | | 50.0% | | | 66.7% | | | 83.3% | | | 100% |
| 11 | NA | | | 43.1% | | | 62.1% | | | 81.0% | | | 100% |
| 12 | 24.1% | | | NA | | | NA | | | NA | | | NA |
| Graduation | 89.9% | | | 73.09% | | | | | | | | | |
| Attendance | 93.0% | | | | | | | | | | | | |

- All determinations of adequate yearly progress are based on the achievement goals identified in the above chart.
- The chart shows the percentages of students that need to meet or exceed the cut scores established in reading and math in order for schools to make adequate yearly progress.
- When a school has more than one grade included in AYP calculations (e.g., the school is organized as K-8, therefore having grades 4 and 8 rolled together), the school will have a weighted intermediate goal that probably is not the same as the state intermediate goal identified above.

■ Safeguards

- Below are two reasons why your percent of students proficient may be less than the state achievement goal, yet your school made AYP.
 - ✓ Binomial Distribution
If a school's student achievement rate is less than the school's achievement goal, then a statistical test is applied to determine a level of confidence in making an AYP determination.

By using binomial distribution and statistical reliability, schools get a benefit or leeway on their AYP score so that we can be 99.0% sure that we do not misidentify a school for program improvement based on a small number of students.
 - ✓ Safe Harbor
"Safe Harbor" is a process that recognizes a school for making significant improvements in student achievement on the state assessments, even though its achievement levels may be below the school's achievement goal.

Safe Harbor recognizes schools that have reduced the percentage of below-proficient students by 10% from the previous year.

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Program Improvement Data

For North Dakota Public Schools and Districts

| • School Program Improvement | |
|---|-----|
| Number of public schools in North Dakota | 486 |
| Number of Title I public schools in North Dakota (approximate) | 333 |
| ✓ Schools in improvement when <i>No Child Left Behind</i> was enacted | 29 |
| ✓ Number of schools that did not make AYP on the 2006-2007 NDSA | 41 |
| ✓ New schools identified for program improvement for 2007-2008 | 2 |
| ✓ Number of schools removed from program improvement status for 2007-2008 | 3 |
| ✓ Total number of schools in program improvement for 2007-2008 | 18 |

| • District Program Improvement | |
|---|-----|
| Number of public districts in North Dakota | 192 |
| Number of Title I districts in North Dakota (approximate) | 168 |
| ✓ When <i>No Child Left Behind</i> was enacted | 0 |
| ✓ Number of districts that didn't make AYP on the 2006-2007 NDSA | 26 |
| ✓ New districts identified for program improvement for 2007-2008 | 2 |
| ✓ Number of districts removed from program improvement status for 2007-2008 | 2 |
| ✓ Total number of districts in program improvement for 2007-2008 | 15 |

Highly Qualified Staff Provision

■ Professional Staff Updates

- According to both federal and state law, all teachers were required to meet the highly qualified staff provision as of **July 1, 2006**.
- On the consolidated application for federal Title funding, districts must enter the projected percent of core academic classes the districts expect to be taught by highly qualified teachers for the 2007-2008 school year. This percent must be higher than the previously calculated percentage column unless the previous percentage is 100 percent, then the projected percent must be 100 percent.
- The Department of Public Instruction is being monitored by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) October 9-11, 2007, regarding our status and implementation of the Title II Part A Improving Teacher Quality state grant.
- Districts report information regarding the highly qualified teacher provision through various methods including:
 - Title I office
 - Consolidated Application
 - Parents' Right to Know Clause
 - Approval and Accreditation office

As a reminder, make sure that you report information consistently to the various offices as they cross reference and compare information.

- To be considered highly qualified, a Title I teacher must hold a valid and current Title I credential. Title I funds can not be used to pay the salary of staff who do not have a credential (if required) or if the credential has expired.

For information regarding Title I credentials, contact Sandy Peterson at (701) 328-2170.

- School districts are no longer required to set aside 5% of their Title I funds to ensure that all teachers are highly qualified, as the federal deadline for teachers to be highly qualified was July 1, 2006. However, if there are staff members who are still working on becoming highly qualified, districts may still set aside funds to assist them as long as they teach a core subject in a Title I building. Districts choosing to do this must know specifically how the funds are going to be utilized and which teachers/aides will be assisted.
- According to NCLB, the following are considered *core academic subject areas*:
 - English
 - Reading/Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Geography
 - Foreign Languages
 - Civics and Government
 - Arts
 - History

- During the 2007 Legislative Session, SB 2287 was passed. This bill authorizes a penalty to any teacher or administrator who “knowingly” has someone assigned to a course for which they are not highly qualified to teach.
- Effective July 1, 2007, teachers are **now** allowed to teach preschool with an elementary education major and a kindergarten endorsement.
- In the reauthorization of the NCLB Act, there is a strong continued focus on the highly qualified staff. They are expanding on the provision, not retracting.

If you have issues or questions regarding any teachers who are not highly qualified for the 2007-2008 school year, please contact the Education Standards and Practices Board at (701) 328-9641 or espinfo@nd.gov.

■ Aide/Paraprofessional Requirements

- Effective July 1, 2006, all aides/paraprofessionals working in a program supported with Title I funds must be highly qualified as evidenced by holding a valid Paraprofessional Certificate of Completion or North Dakota Educator’s Professional License.
- Under NCLB law, aides/paraprofessionals must meet one of three requirements to be employed in a Title I program. These three include:
 - Obtain an associates degree (or higher) from an institution of higher education; or
 - Complete at least two years of study at an institution of higher education; or
 - Meet a rigorous standard of quality, which includes an assessment of reading, writing, and math. North Dakota has three assessments on our State approved list.
- This requirement pertains to all Title I paid aides/paraprofessionals in a targeted assistance school. In a schoolwide program, Title I funds support all teachers and paraprofessionals; therefore, these requirements apply to all aides/paraprofessionals with instructional duties, regardless of whether or not the position is supported with Title I funds. This includes instructional aides paid with district, Title I, special education, BIA, or other funding sources.
- Districts can not employ an aide/paraprofessional working in a program supported with Title I funds, without documentation that they are highly qualified.

For information regarding Title I aide/paraprofessional certificates, contact Nita Wirtz at (701) 328-1876.

Dissemination Requirements for Schools and Districts Receiving Federal Funds 2007-2008

At the beginning of each school year, federal law requires schools and districts receiving federal funds to notify parents of particular components outlined in the law. The purpose of this document is to assist schools and districts regarding these dissemination requirements.

| What is the requirement? | What is this? | When should it be shared? | Where can sample correspondence be found? |
|--|--|---|--|
| ● School AYP Report | School AYP reports are generated for each school in the state each year. These reports reflect the <u>school's</u> performance based on the year's state assessment results. | Immediately after release * | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm |
| ● District AYP Report | District AYP reports are generated for each district in the state each year. These reports reflect the <u>district's</u> overall performance based on the year's state assessment results. | Immediately after release * | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm |
| ● School District Profile (a.k.a. District Report Card) | The state generates School District Profiles (also known as District Report Cards) each year for parents and the public. This profile reflects the academic achievement of students at the state, district, and school building level. | Immediately after release (Winter 2007) | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm |
| ● Dispute Resolution Procedures | Federal regulations require that each state and district adopt written procedures for receiving and resolving disputes pertaining to any of the federal Title programs. Parents need to be provided with a copy of your dispute resolution policy. | Start of School (September 2007) | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/dispute.pdf |
| ● Parents' Right To Know Clause | NCLB requires schools receiving Title I funds to notify all parents that they have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of instructional staff (certified and non-certified) at the school. | Start of School (September 2007) | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm |
| ● Non-highly qualified staff teaching for four weeks or more | NCLB requires teachers to meet certain requirements if teaching for four or more consecutive weeks. If a teacher does not meet these requirements, schools are responsible to notify parents. | As Needed | www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/springwkshp/fourweek.pdf |

* Since the 2006-2007 AYP reports for both schools and districts were released in May and June 2007, respectively, school and district personnel will need to ensure that they are disseminated to parents as soon as school resumes in the fall, if they were not disseminated last spring.