

Education Acronyms and Abbreviations

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504

Section 504 Plan

ACT

American College Test. An assessment taken by students as a precursor to college/university admission.

ADM

Average Daily Membership. The number of days a student is in membership at a school divided by the number of days in a school month or school year.

AP

Advanced Placement. A program that enables high school students to complete college-level courses for college placement and/or credit.

AMAO

Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives

AMO

Annual Measurable Objectives

ASSP

After School Snack Program

BIP

Behavior Intervention Plan

BOG3

Beginning of Grade 3. Test taken in English language arts/reading by third-grade students starting on the 11th day of the school year and continuing through the 15th day.

BOY

Beginning of Year Assessment

BT

Beginning Teacher. A teacher is classified as a beginning teacher for the first three years of their teaching career. This may be extended at the local level based on licensure.

BTSP

Beginning Teacher Support Program. This is the required program by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction for school districts to monitor their beginning teachers. It is required that an approved document be signed and on hand in the district at all times.

CCR

College and Career Readiness

CEDARS

Common Education Data Analysis & Reporting System. CEDARS is North Carolina's PreK-13 State Longitudinal Data System. CEDARS enables state, local, and federal policymakers and service providers to make data-driven decisions based on analysis of trends and relationships between various educational factors and student performance over time.

CEP

Community Eligibility Provision is a USDA non-pricing meal service option for high-poverty schools, allowing them to serve free breakfast and lunch to all students without household applications.

CPL

Continuing Professional License

CRDC

Civil Rights Data Collection. The U.S. Department of Education collects data from all public school districts and schools to monitor and address disparities in education, focusing on issues such as student enrollment, access to courses, and school climate factors. The data collected is disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex, disability, and English Learners, providing insights into the educational experiences of different student groups.

CTE

Career and Technical Education. CTE provides high school students with the opportunity to take courses in eight program areas so that they can explore interests and careers while building and strengthening their career-specific knowledge and skills. The eight education program areas are: Agricultural; Business, Finance and Information Technology; Career Development; Family and Consumer Sciences; Health Science; Marketing and Entrepreneurship; Technology, Engineering, and Design; and Trade and Industrial.

DIP

District Improvement Plan. A district-level plan for improvement that specifically addresses the strategies the district will implement to improve academic performance for low-performing schools.

DPI

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

ECATS

Exceptional Children Accountability Tracking System. A secure web-based student information system for exceptional children that supports online case management, compliance monitoring, data analysis, and federal and state reporting requirements.

EDDIE

Educational Directory & Demographical Information Exchange. EDDIE is the authoritative source for North Carolina public school information, including LEA numbers, school numbers, administrative contacts, school types, grade levels, calendar types, program types, and addresses. Information contained in EDDIE is populated by local districts and feeds multiple NCDPI systems, including Accountability, PowerSchool, and NC School Report Cards, and is used to meet federal reporting requirements. EDDIE replaced the School, Name and Address (SNA) file in April 2010.

ELA

English Language Arts. Part of the Common Core curriculum in the NC Standard Course of Study, ELA refers to reading, literature, reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

ELG

Expected Level of Growth

EOC

End-of-Course tests are designed to assess the competencies defined by the Standard Course of Study for three mandated courses: NC Math I, English II, and Biology. Tests are taken during the last two weeks of school for students on a traditional calendar and the last week of the course for students on a block schedule.

EOG

End-of-Grade tests in English language arts/reading and mathematics (grades 3-8) and science (grades 5 and 8) are taken by students during the last ten days of the school year.

EOY

End of Year

EPP

Educator's Preparation Program. An alternative-licensed teacher must apply to an acceptable program in order to be eligible for a Residency License.

ESEA

Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This is the principal federal law affecting K-12 education, with its longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students. The ESEA of 1965 was later amended and reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. In December of 2015, the ESEA was again amended and reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ESL

English as a Second Language. A program model that delivers specialized instruction to students who are learning English as a new language.

ESSA

Every Student Succeeds Act. This is the name of the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. See ESEA above. The ESSA was signed into law in 2015 and requires each state to create a plan to meet the components of the law.

EVAAS

Education Value Added Assessment System. SAS® EVAAS™ for K-12 is a customized software system available to all NC school districts that provides diagnostic reports quickly to district and school staff. EVAAS tools provide a precise measurement of student progress over time and a reliable diagnosis of opportunities for growth that help to identify which students are at risk for underachievement. By viewing easy-to-understand charts and graphs accessed via the Web, users can produce reports that predict student success, show the effects of instruction at particular schools, or reveal patterns in subgroup performance.

FAPE

Free Appropriate Public Education

FBA

Functional Behavior Assessment

FFVP

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is a United States Department of Agriculture grant funded program offering a variety of free, fresh fruit and vegetable snacks to children at eligible elementary schools.

FMLA

Family Medical Leave Act: a U.S. federal law providing eligible employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave for specific family and medical reasons, requiring employers to maintain health benefits during the leave, covering births, adoptions, serious personal or family health conditions, and military family needs. It applies to public agencies and private companies with 50+ employees. Must work for a covered employer, have worked for them for at least 12 months, and have worked at least 1,250 hours in the past year.

FRL

Free and Reduced Priced Lunch. Children qualify, based upon parent or guardian financial status, to receive either free or reduced-priced lunch through a federal governmental program.

GLP

Grade Level Proficiency

IDEA

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This federal law, reauthorized in 2004, is designed to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free and appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services

designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.

IEP

Individualized Education Program. The IEP is a written statement for a student with a disability that is developed, at least annually, by a team of professionals knowledgeable about the student and the parent. The plan describes the strengths of the child and the concerns of the parents for enhancing the education of their child, and when, where, and how often services will be provided. The IEP is required by federal law for all exceptional children and must include specific information about how the student will be served and what goals he or she should be meeting.

IHE

Institute of Higher Education. A college or university offering education beyond grade 12.

IIS

Instructional Improvement System. The IIS provides portals for students, teachers, parents, and school and district administrators to access data and resources to inform decision-making related to instruction, assessment, and students' career and college goals.

ISP

The Identified Student Percentage is the ratio of students directly certified for free school meals to total enrollment.

LEA

Local Education Agency. Synonymous with a local school system or a local school district, indicating that a public board of education or other public authority maintains administrative control of the public schools in a city or county.

LETRS

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling

LIP

Literacy Intervention Plan

LIEP

Language Instruction Educational Program

LMS

Learning Management System. A software application that is used to administer, document, track, report, and deliver educational courses or training programs.

LOR

Learner Object Repository. A storage site for digital content or "digital library." An LOR lets educators share, manage, and use educational resources.

LPI

Literacy Performance Index

LRE

Least Restrictive Environment

mCLASS

K–3 Literacy Assessment System

MCR

Math Course Rigor. MCR is the percentage of students who take and pass the NC Math 3 course prior to graduation. It is a part of the school accountability model.

MFELs

Monitored former English Learners. Students who have exited English Learner (EL) status but remain in the EL subgroup for four years after the year they exit EL status. MFELs are monitored at the school level to ensure continued adequate English proficiency.

ML

Multilingual Learners. An individual whose native language is a language other than English or who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency and who requires a specialized language support program to participate fully in the curriculum and state-wide assessment program. Formerly known as EL or LEP.

MOY

Middle of Year

MTSS

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. NC MTSS is a school improvement framework that encompasses academic, behavioral, social, and emotional instruction and support. NC MTSS employs a systems approach using data-driven problem-solving to maximize growth for all.

NAEP

National Assessment of Educational Progress. Also known as the “Nation’s Report Card,” NAEP assesses the educational achievement of elementary and secondary students in various subject areas. It provides data for comparing the performance of students in North Carolina to that of their peers nationwide.

NCDPI

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. The NCDPI is led by the State Superintendent and administers the policies adopted by the State Board of Education. It offers instructional, financial, technological, and personnel support to all public school systems in the state.

NCEES

The North Carolina Educator Evaluation System. A system used to evaluate the performance of all teachers, principals, assistant principals, instructional central office administrators, and superintendents to promote effective leadership, quality teaching, and student learning while enhancing professional practice that leads to improved instruction.

NCEXTEND1

The North Carolina EXTEND1 is an alternate assessment designed to measure the performance of students with significant cognitive disabilities using alternate achievement standards.

NSLP

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.

OER

Open Educational Resources. Teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others.

OLE

Online Learning Exchange. The exchange resides, as the title suggests, online to connect teachers to libraries of subject-specific media assets, editable content, and user-generated materials.

OT

Occupational Therapy

OVS

Offer Versus Serve allows students to decline food components in an effort to reduce waste.

PBIS

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based, tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health. Positive Behavior Intervention and Support programs are a way to impact school learning environments by establishing and reinforcing clear behavioral expectations to support high student performance and to reduce behavioral problems. PBIS site schools work to integrate their Safe Schools Plans, character education efforts and strategies, and discipline efforts to make the schools caring and safe communities for learning.

PD

Professional Development. The term refers to skills and knowledge attained for both personal development and career advancement, such as continuous courses,

workshops, activities, and learning objectives aimed at helping professional educators and staff members improve their skills in their fields.

PL

Professional Learning. The term is an ongoing, collaborative, job-embedded process where educators actively build skills and knowledge in the community, leading to sustained change for students, emphasizing agency and relevance

PLC

Professional Learning Communities. PLCs are defined by collaborative inquiry, shared decision-making, and joint planning of instruction among teachers. Teachers are provided with structured time to work together in planning instruction, observing each other's classrooms, and sharing feedback.

PPE

Personal Protective Equipment

PSAT

Pre-Scholastic Assessment Test. Normally taken by high school juniors as a practice test for the SAT. Some schools use the PSAT as a diagnostic tool to identify areas where students may need additional assistance or placement in more rigorous courses.

PSG

Performance and Support Growth

PSU

Public School Unit. Refers to a local school district or charter school system, the entity that directly serves students and implements state education policies, programs, and funding for things like curriculum, teacher support, and digital initiatives. Formally LEA.

PT

Physical Therapy

RESA

Regional Education Service Alliance. These regional alliances (sometimes called a consortium) provide staff development, leadership development, technical assistance and help in spreading information related to state initiatives to member public school systems in each of the state's nine geographic regions: Northeast, Southeast, Central Carolina, Sandhills, Piedmont-Triad, Southwest, Northwest, Western, and Roanoke River Valley.

RL

Residency License: Alternative pathway license requiring enrollment in an EPP.

RtA

Read to Achieve. NC state law to ensure every student reads at or above grade level by the end of third grade and progresses in reading proficiency so that he or she can

read, comprehend, integrate, and apply complex texts needed for secondary education and career success.

SAT

The SAT is often taken by high school juniors and seniors as a precursor to college/university admission. It assesses a student's verbal, mathematical, and writing skills.

SBE

State Board of Education. The State Board of Education is charged with supervising and administering "the free public school system and the educational funds provided for its support." The Board consists of the Lieutenant Governor, the Treasurer, and eleven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly in Joint Session.

SBP

School Breakfast Program.

SCOS or SCS

(North Carolina) Standard Course of Study. The SCOS is the guiding document outlining what should be taught in North Carolina public school classrooms.

SEA

State Education Agency. Federal term for each state education department. SEA is another name for the NCDPI.

SEL

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions. (CASEL, 2020)

SIP

School Improvement Plan. A plan that includes strategies for improving student performance, how and when improvements will be implemented, use of state funds, requests for waivers, etc. Plans are in effect for no more than three years.

SIS

Student Information System. SIS is a software application that educational institutions use to manage student data, such as enrollment. Sometimes it is called a student information management system (SIMS).

SLC

[North Carolina] Student Learning Conditions [Survey]. This survey provides middle and high school students with the opportunity to express their perceptions regarding the learning environment in their schools. Similar to the NC Teacher Working

Conditions Survey, student responses will be utilized for school and district improvement efforts.

SLP

Speech Language Pathology

SoR

Science of Reading

SP1

Standard Professional 1 License (3-year license for new teachers).

SP2

Standard Professional 2 License (5-year license for 3+ years of experience). Also referred to as Continuing Professional License (CPL)

SPG

School Performance Grades. School Performance Grades are awarded to schools as defined by G.S. §115C-83.15. A-F letter grades are calculated using achievement, growth, and performance measures.

SSO

Single sign-on. This term refers to users logging into several technology tools using one sign-on name and password.

STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. STEM curriculum emphasizes connections within and between the fields of mathematics and science; integrates technology; introduces and engages students in the engineering design process; cultivates creativity; and develops skills that drive innovation.

Tier I / II / III

MTSS Tiered levels of Instruction and Intervention

TIMS

Transportation Information Management System. The computer system used by North Carolina school districts for routing and scheduling school buses ensures safe and efficient bus routes.

TIPS

Team-Initiated Problem Solving is a model developed at the University of Oregon and the University of NC at Charlotte for using data for problem solving and decision making, including a systematic team process generalizable across datasets.

Title I

Title I is the largest federal education funding program for schools. Its aim is to help students who are behind academically or at risk of falling behind. School funding is

based on the number of low-income children, generally those eligible for the free and reduced-price lunch program. Title I used to be known as Chapter I.

Title II

Title II The primary goal is to increase student achievement by improving the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders. Focuses on providing low-income and minority students greater access to effective teachers and leaders.

Title III

Title III is the section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that provides funding and addresses English language acquisition and standards and accountability requirements for English learners.

Title IX

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 bans sex discrimination in schools receiving federal funds, whether it is in academics or athletics.

TSG

Total Student Growth

TWC

[North Carolina] Teacher Working Conditions [Survey]. A biennial survey of all North Carolina public schools' licensed staff, the TWC survey provides educators with an opportunity to express their perceptions about working conditions at their schools. Information gathered from the survey is shared with school staff, district administrators, parents, and the community for school improvement planning purposes. Survey results are available online at www.ncteachingconditions.org. In addition, the new evaluation instruments for superintendents, principals, and teachers use TWC responses to reflect on the presence of working conditions in the school.

USED

United States Department of Education. The USED provides federal assistance to state and local agencies primarily responsible for education and works to ensure both equal access (e.g., disadvantaged, disabled, at-risk students) and educational excellence. The department engages in four major types of activities: establishes policies related to federal education funds, administers distribution of funds and monitors their use; collects data and oversees research on America's schools; identifies major issues in education and focuses national attention on them; and enforces federal laws prohibiting discrimination in programs that receive federal funds (USED website).

WIDA

The WIDA Consortium is an educational consortium of state departments of education that supports academic language development for students who are English Learners. The WIDA suite of assessments is what North Carolina uses to assess and monitor English language proficiency.

References

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