



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Eleventh Graders Completing Graduation
Credits in Three-Year Period

H259 - 2023 Appropriations Act

Date Due: June 1, 2026
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2025-2026

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION VISION

Every public school student in North Carolina will be empowered to accept academic challenges, prepared to pursue their chosen path after graduating high school, and encouraged to become lifelong learners with the capacity to engage in a globally-collaborative society.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION

The mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education and the North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction is to use their constitutional authority to guard and maintain the right to a public education for every student in North Carolina and to support public school units in providing every student an excellent education that prepares them for success in their next phase of life.

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NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Maurice "Mo" Green, State Superintendent / 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

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ELEVENTH GRADERS COMPLETING GRADUATION CREDITS IN A THREE- YEAR PERIOD

In response to SECTION 8A.6.(r), Governing bodies of other public school units that offer a sequence of courses in accordance with G.S. 115C-12(9d) and all local boards of education shall report to the Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) on the number of rising eleventh graders utilizing the sequence of courses to complete the credits required for graduation in a three-year period by May 15, 2025, and May 15, 2026.

The Department of Public Instruction shall report the total number of rising eleventh graders utilizing the sequence of courses to complete the credits required for graduation in a three-year period by public school unit to the Fiscal Research Division by June 1, 2025, and June 1, 2026.

Based on data in NC-SIS entered by Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Charter Schools:

- There are 346 eleventh graders planning to graduate at the end of the 2025-26 school year in public school units.

Given the inability for there to be additional graduation requirements from LEAs beyond the State Board of Education requirements, students are able to graduate early from high school without specifying the three-year pathway especially when high schools are on block schedule. PSUs noted that distinguishing these students from other early graduates is a challenge. To address this challenge, NCDPI established an accelerated pathway flag for PSUs to utilize for reporting purposes. It is in the first year of implementation.