

CHAPTER 128

STATEWIDE STUDENT ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS

S.F. 240

AN ACT relating to statewide assessments of student progress utilizing core academic indicators, and including effective date provisions.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b, subparagraph (1), Code 2017, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Annually, the department shall report state data for each indicator in the condition of education report. Rules adopted pursuant to [this subsection](#) shall specify that the approved district-wide assessment of student progress administered for purposes of the core academic indicators shall be the assessment utilized by school districts statewide in the school year beginning July 1, 2011, or a successor assessment ~~administered by the same assessment provider~~ approved by the state board for school years beginning on or after July 1, 2018. The rules shall also require that all students enrolled in school districts in grades three through eleven be administered an assessment in mathematics and reading during the last quarter of the school year and all students enrolled in school districts in grades five, eight, and ten be administered an assessment in science during the last quarter of the school year.

Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b, subparagraphs (2), (3), and (4), Code 2017, are amended by striking the subparagraphs.

Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.

1. The department of education shall issue a request for proposals for the selection of a statewide assessment of student progress to be administered in the school year beginning July 1, 2018, and each succeeding school year. The assessment shall measure individual student growth and be aligned to the Iowa core academic standards for grades three through eight and at least one high school grade. The assessment shall be capable of measuring student performance in English language arts, including reading and writing; mathematics; and science. The assessment shall be available in both paper-and-pencil and computer-based formats. Proposals incapable of assessing performance in English language arts, including reading and writing, mathematics, and science shall not be considered. Potential vendors or providers may collaborate to meet the requirements of this subsection.

2. In evaluating the proposals, the department shall only consider the feasibility of implementation by school districts; the costs to school districts and the state in providing and administering the statewide assessment and the technical support necessary to administer the statewide assessment; the costs of acquiring the infrastructure necessary for implementing technology readiness in all of Iowa's school districts, including technology required for accommodations; the degree to which the submission is aligned with the Iowa core academic standards; the ability of the assessment to measure student growth and student proficiency; the ability of the assessment to meet the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95; and the instructional time required to conduct the statewide assessment.

3. The department of education shall issue the request for proposals by July 1, 2017, and shall select the assessment that best meets the criteria established under this section in time for the assessment to be administered as provided in this section. The state board of education shall adopt rules establishing that the assessment selected by the department shall be administered in accordance with [section 256.7, subsection 21](#), paragraph "b", subparagraph (1). An accredited nonpublic school may administer the assessment to students enrolled in the accredited nonpublic school.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved May 11, 2017