

**Title 28**

**EDUCATION**

**Part XI. Accountability/Testing**

**Subpart 1. Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System**

**Chapter 7. Graduation Cohort, Index, and Rate [Formerly Chapter 6]**

**§709. Calculating a Strength of Diploma Index [Formerly §613]**

A. Beginning in 2017-2018 (2016-2017 cohort), points shall be assigned for each member of a cohort according to the following table.

| <b>Student Results</b>   | <b>Points</b> |
|--|---------------|
| High School Diploma plus Associate's Degree  | 160           |
| High School Diploma plus:<br>(a). AP score of 3 or higher;<br>IB score of 4 or higher; or<br>CLEP score of 50 or higher<br>OR<br>(b). Advanced statewide Jump Start credential<br>*Students achieving both (a) and (b) will generate 160 points.   | 150           |
| High School Diploma plus:<br>(a). At least one passing course grade for TOPS core curriculum credit of the following type: AP**;<br>college credit; dual enrollment; or IB**<br>OR<br>(b). Basic statewide Jump Start credential<br>*Students achieving both (a) and (b) will generate 115 points.<br>**Students must take the AP/IB exam and pass the course to earn 110 points | 110           |
| High School Diploma (includes Career Diploma student with a regional Jump Start credential)  | 100           |
| <i>HiSET</i> plus Jump Start credential  | 40            |
| <i>HiSET</i>   | 25            |
| Non-graduate without <i>HiSET</i>  | 0             |

B. - D.

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**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6 and 17:10.1.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 32:1025 (June 2006), amended LR 33:2031 (October 2007), LR 33:2594 (December 2007), LR 35:1472 (August 2009), LR 36:1769 (August 2010), repromulgated LR 36:1994 (September 2010), LR 36:2243 (October 2010), LR 37:3201 (November 2011), LR 38:1391 (June 2012), LR 38:3109 (December 2012), LR 39:306 (February 2013), LR 39:2444 (September 2013), LR 40:1317 (July 2014), LR 41:615 (April 2015), LR 42:1017 (July 2016), LR 42:2172 (December 2016), LR 44:455 (March 2018), LR 44:1998 (November 2018), LR 47:448 (April 2021), LR 48:

**Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 953 and 974 of title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Family Impact Statement on rules proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment. All Family Impact Statements will be kept on file in the state board office which has adopted, amended, or repealed rules in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the stability of the family? No.

2. Will the proposed Rule affect the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children? No.
3. Will the proposed Rule affect the functioning of the family? No.
4. Will the proposed Rule affect family earnings and family budget? No.
5. Will the proposed Rule affect the behavior and personal responsibility of children? No.
6. Is the family or a local government able to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? Yes.

#### **Poverty Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 973 of title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Poverty Impact Statement on rules proposed for adoption, amendment, or repeal. All Poverty Impact Statements will be in writing and kept on file in the state agency which has adopted, amended, or repealed rules in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records. For the purposes of this section, the word "poverty" means living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the household income, assets, and financial authority? No.
2. Will the proposed Rule affect early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development? No.
3. Will the proposed Rule affect employment and workforce development? No.
4. Will the proposed Rule affect taxes and tax credits? No.
5. Will the proposed Rule affect child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance? No.

#### **Small Business Statement**

The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in R.S. 49:965.6, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental, and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed Rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;
2. the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or
3. the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until noon, December 10, 2022, to Shan N. Davis, Executive Director, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064. Written comments may also be hand delivered to Shan Davis, Executive Director, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Suite 5-190, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 and must be date stamped by the BESE office on the date received. Public comments must be dated and include the original signature of the person submitting the comments.

Shan N. Davis  
Executive Director

**RULE TITLE: Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System**

**I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

There will be increased costs to the Department of Education (LDE) to implement the Innovative Assessment Program (IAP) for grades 6-8. While the cost of implementing the IAP for these grade levels is indeterminable, the total cost of implementing the IAP for grades 3-8 is expected to be \$4.4 M in FY23. Costs in subsequent years are indeterminable.

The proposed revisions implement the IAP for grades 6-8. The IAP provides an alternative approach to measuring how well students know and understand the Louisiana English Language Arts content standards. The IAP has been piloted since the 2018-19 school year and was developed through the use of philanthropic funding. In June 2021, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) approved a contract for \$2.7 M with NWEA to expand IAP content to grades 3-5. In October, the LDE will present to BESE an amendment to this contract which increases the scope of services, including content development for the grades 6-8 assessments. Under the amended contract, the total payment in FY 23 will be \$4.4 M.

The original contract for grades 3-5 is funded through the federal Competitive Grant for State Assessments. The LDE reports it will supplement the amended contract with Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) funding. Funding sources beyond FY 23 are indeterminable, and may include SGF or 8(g) program funding.

The revisions also implement the new English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) Connect, an alternate assessment created for English learners with significant cognitive disabilities. The cost of developing the new English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) Connect assessment is included within the LDE's English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21) membership. The total cost of membership in the ELPA21 assessment system is approximately \$1.4 M per year and includes all of the English Learner Assessments used by the state. Title I Part B funds are used to pay for this membership.

There may also be increased workload to local school districts to implement the new assessments; however, any associated costs are indeterminable.

**II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

The proposed revisions will not have an effect on revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

**III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED, SMALL BUSINESSES, PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)**

The proposed revisions will not result in costs and/or benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.

**IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)**

The proposed revisions will not have an effect on competition and employment.

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Alan Boxberger  
Staff Director  
Legislative Fiscal Office