



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Maurice "Mo" Green, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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SCHOOL EXTENSION LEARNING RECOVERY PROGRAMS (HB47, 2025)

Guidance Document

Executive Summary

HB47 requires LEAs identified as a "participating school unit" and allows identified charter schools to develop a school extension learning recovery program (Program). The Program shall serve students in grades 4-8 and address learning losses and negative impacts experienced due to unusual and extraordinary conditions related to Hurricane Helene. Participating school units are identified as:

1. A local school administrative unit located in Ashe County, Avery County, Buncombe County, Burke County, Haywood County, Henderson County, Madison County, McDowell County, Mitchell County, Rutherford County, Transylvania County, Watauga County, or Yancey County.
2. Any charter school located in a county listed above that elects to participate in the program.

The program is to exist outside of the instructional calendar, meaning it cannot be an extension of the 2024-2025 academic year. It is not to be considered "extended school year services" as defined in an individualized education program and must conclude prior to the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year.

The participating school unit is required to enroll students in grades 4-8 who were enrolled in the participating school unit in 2024-2025. Student participation in the program is voluntary and a parent or guardian must provide consent for enrollment. Priority shall be given to students who have not reached proficiency in reading or mathematics as demonstrated by the results of their EOG at the end of 2024-2025. Other eligible students may participate in the Program as space is available. To the extent possible, students shall attend the Program at a school in the public school unit in which the student was enrolled in 2024-2025. Students enrolled in a charter school that has elected not to participate may attend the Program in the participating school unit closest to the student's residence.

Participating school units shall develop and submit a program plan that meets the legislative requirements no later than 30 days prior to the final instructional day of the 2024-2025 school year. The NC Department of Public Instruction shall notify the participating school unit of any recommended changes within 21 days of receiving the proposal.

A participating school unit shall employ teachers and other school personnel as temporary employees on a contract basis for the period of the Program.

No later than April 1, 2025, NCDPI shall make available a list of assessments that were used to evaluate students in the Summer Learning Program conducted pursuant to S.L. 2021-7. Participating school units shall select an assessment per grade and subject for students in grades 4-8 from the list provided by NCDPI. The assessments shall be taken at the beginning and at the

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conclusion of the program. Each participating school unit shall ensure that the results of the assessments administered to a student shall be provided to all teachers of record for that student for the 2025-2026 school year.

1. Participating school units shall report all the following to NCDPI by October 15, 2025:
2. The number of students offered first priority enrollment in the Program and the total number of students that enrolled in the Program.
3. The attendance record of enrolled students.
4. Results of the assessments given to students at the beginning and conclusion of the program.
5. The number of students who progressed to the next grade level and the number of students who were retained in the same grade level after participating in the program.

NCDPI shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the implementation of this act and all the information required in this section by January 15, 2026. The report will include:

1. Implementation of the School Extension Learning Recovery Program.
2. The information required to be reported by participating school units.
3. A copy of each Program plan submitted, including any changes recommended by the Department, the reason the change was recommended and whether the recommendation was followed.
4. Any other data or information the Department deems relevant.

The Department shall partner with the Office of Learning Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (OLR) to study the overall effectiveness of the School Extension Learning Recovery Program, as well as the impact of various individual Program plan designs on student academic outcomes.

Program Established; Purpose

SECTION 2G.1.(b)

Notwithstanding Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes or any other provision of law, following the end of the 2024-2025 school year, participating school units shall offer a School Extension Learning Recovery Program (Program) outside of the instructional school calendar. The purpose of the Program shall be to provide core instruction on specific subjects and enrichment to students in grades four through eight to address learning losses and negative impacts students have experienced due to unusual and extraordinary conditions related to Hurricane Helene in the 34 2024-2025 school year.

NCDPI Guidance

Each Participating School Unit shall develop an in-person learning recovery program to begin after the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year and conclude before the start of the 2025-2026. The program is to be offered outside of the instructional school calendar. The program shall prioritize students that have not yet reached proficiency in reading or mathematics as demonstrated by the

results of their EOG assessments but may include other students when there is space available. The program shall emphasize core instruction and include accommodations, modifications, and/or supports provided in general education settings comparable to individualized education programs or Section 504 Plans implemented during the normal school year.

Participating School Units Include: Ashe County, Avery County, Buncombe County, Burke County, Haywood County, Henderson County, Madison County, McDowell County, Mitchell County, Rutherford County, Transylvania County, Watauga County, and Yancey County

Program Plan; Requirements

SECTION 2G.1.(f)

Each participating school unit shall develop and submit a plan for its program that meets the requirements of this act to the Department of Public Instruction no later than 30 days prior to the final instructional day of the 2024-2025 school year. The Department shall notify the local school administrative unit of any recommended changes and approve the program plan with those changes within 21 days of receiving the plan from a participating school unit. A charter school is also encouraged to submit a plan that meets the requirements of this section depending on the grade levels served by the school to offer a program consistent with this act.

The program shall be separate and apart from the 2024-2025 school year and shall not be an extension of the 2024-2025 school year.

The plan shall include at least the following as components of the program:

1. *Instruction shall be delivered for at least 72 hours over the course of the program as follows:*
 - a. *Each day of the program shall contain a minimum of three hours of instructional time and one hour of enrichment activity.*
 - b. *Instructional time shall not include the time for lunch service, transition periods and the physical activity.*
 - c. *Instruction shall not be delivered on Saturdays.*
 - d. *Instruction shall be in person only.*
2. *Meal service for each instructional day.*
3. *A period of physical activity during the instructional day.*
4. *Transportation services to the school facility housing the Program.*
5. *Grade level course offerings in reading or mathematics. Courses shall be determined by the need of students and staff competencies. The program may consist of the following:*
 - a. *Students taking courses in reading only.*
 - b. *Students taking courses in math only.*
 - c. *Students taking both reading and math courses.*
6. *At least one enrichment activity (e.g. sports, music, or arts programs).*
7. *Identify the assessments that will be administered at the beginning and conclusion of the program.*

Student Enrollment

SECTION 2G.1.(c), SECTION 2G.1.(d), SECTION 2G.1.(e)

Only students in grades four through eight that were enrolled in a school in a participating school unit during the 2024-2025 school year are eligible to enroll in the Program. Eligible students that have not reached proficiency in reading or mathematics, as demonstrated by the results of the state-approved annual assessment, by the end of the 2024-2025 school year shall be given first priority to enroll in the Program. Other eligible students may participate in the Program within space available. Participation in the Program is voluntary.

NCDPI Guidance

Program participation is voluntary and at the discretion of the parent or guardian. Participating school units shall determine a process by which they will a) identify eligible students, b) inform parents of eligibility, c) establish criteria for additional student participation and d) provide outreach to families and students in an effort to increase participation.

Employment of School Personnel

SECTION 2G.1.(g)

Employment of School Personnel. – Notwithstanding Articles 35 19, 20, 21, and Part 3 of Article 22 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, a participating school unit shall employ teachers and other school personnel as temporary employees on a contract basis for the period of the Program. School personnel employed as temporary employees by a participating school unit pursuant to this section shall not be considered an "employee," as defined in G.S. 135-1(10), or a "teacher," as defined in G.S. 135-1(25), nor shall it cause school personnel to be considered an "employee or State employee" under G.S. 135-48.1(10). In addition, school personnel shall not be deemed as earning "compensation," as defined in 42 G.S. 135-1(7a), and shall not be eligible to accrue paid leave during their temporary employment.

NCDPI Guidance

All individuals hired, teachers and non-certified staff, are considered temporary employees on a contractual basis from the time in which the bill becomes law until the conclusion of the Program.

Program Assessments

SECTION 2G.1.(h)

No later than April 1, 2025, the Department of Public Instruction shall make available to all public school units that may participate in the Program under subsection (a) of this section a list of all assessments that were used to evaluate students in a program conducted pursuant to S.L. 2021-7. Participating school units shall select an assessment per grade and subject for students in grades four through eight from the list provided by the Department that shall be taken at the beginning of the Program and at the conclusion of the Program. Each participating school unit shall ensure that the results of all assessments administered to a student shall be provided to all teachers of record for that student for the 2025-2026 school year.

NCDPI Guidance

NCDPI will provide a list of all assessments used in the 2021 Summer Learning Program (S.L. 2021-7). Participating school units shall select one those assessments for each subject and grade for students in grades 4-8. The assessment shall be administered at the beginning and conclusion

of the program and the results submitted to NCDPI and provided to all teachers of record for participating students for the 2025-2026 school year.

The following assessments may be used for math and/or reading for students in grades 4-8:

- AimsWeb Plus
- Classworks
- Edgenuity
- Edmentum Exact Path
- Imagine (Language and Literacy; Math)
- iReady
- iStation
- mClass
- MobyMax
- NWEA MAP Growth
- Renaissance Star
- SuccessMaker

Reporting Requirements

SECTION 2G.1.(i), SECTION 2G.1.(j)

By October 15, 2026, school units shall report all of the following to the Department of Public Instruction:

- (1) The number of students offered first priority enrollment in the Program, and the total number of students that enrolled in the Program.*
- (2) The attendance record of enrolled students.*
- (3) Results of the assessment given to students at the beginning and end of the Program.*
- (4) The number of students who progressed to the next grade level and the number of students who were retained in the same grade level after participating in the Program.*

No later than January 15, 2026, the Department of Public Instruction shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the following:

- (1) Implementation of the School Extension Learning Recovery Program.*
- (2) The information required to be reported under subsection (i) of this section.*
- (3) A copy of each Program plan submitted to the Department, including any changes recommended by the Department, the reason the change was recommended, and whether the recommendation was followed.*
- (4) Any other data or information the Department deems relevant.*

NCDPI Guidance

Participating school units shall report all the following to NCDPI by October 15, 2025:

1. The number of students offered first priority enrollment in the Program and the total number of students that enrolled in the Program.
2. The attendance record of enrolled students.
3. Results of the assessments given to students at the beginning and conclusion of the program.
4. The number of students who progressed to the next grade level and the number of students who were retained in the same grade level after participating in the program.

The Department of Public Instruction shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the implementation of this act and all the information required in this section by January 15, 2026. The report will include:

1. Implementation of the School Extension Learning Recovery Program.
2. The information required to be reported by participating school units.
3. A copy of each Program plan submitted, including any changes recommended by the Department, the reason the change was recommended, and whether the recommendation was followed.
4. Any other data or information the Department deems relevant.

Research Study

SECTION 2G.1.(k)

The Office of Learning Research (OLR) at NC Collaboratory will partner with researchers at UNC System universities to study on the overall effectiveness of the School Extension Learning Recovery Program, as well as the impact of various individual Program plan designs on academic student outcomes. OLR shall report the results of the study to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than January 15, 2027.

Resources

Comprehensive Summer Learning Guide (2024)

<https://simplebooklet.com/ncsummerlearningguide#page=25>

OLR White Paper – Evidence about Effective Summer Programming (June 2022)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XQV0QZ4WzZzAdgHz1XIRglkrJRa72DR8/view>

Summer 2021 Extension Programs Research Report (December 2022)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hjFeiNObo6-TTENXeHDF3sp1jXbeTu6/view>

JLEOC – SL 2021-7 (January 2022)

<https://npr.brightspotcdn.com/e9/59/4f3994a843c8aa86e5e875686541/nc-summer-school-report-01052022.pdf>

Family Engagement Strategies in North Carolina Districts (2024)

<https://epic.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1268/2025/03/Family-Engagement-Strategies.pdf>