

Students Included in the Ratings

- Absolute performance ratings for schools: Data from any student who is in membership in a school at the time of the 45-day enrollment count will be included in the absolute performance rating for a school for the ratings year if he or she was enrolled at the time of testing. (Therefore, students in membership but temporarily assigned to an alternative program are counted in the home school.) Data from students repeating a grade are included in the calculation of the ratings. Results from students taking state-administered End-of-Course tests for high school credit courses will be included in the ratings. For purposes of calculating on-time graduation rates, data from student dropouts will be included in the calculations; data from students who transfer to another educational setting and are enrolled in a state high school diploma program are removed from the calculation.

- Data from special education students administered the state assessments with standard accommodations will be used for the calculation of school and district ratings. Scores from these students will be treated in the ratings calculations in the same manner as those from the state assessment administered in its standard format. For the 2009-2010 school year, data from the results of administrations using non-standard accommodations will be treated in the state ratings calculations in the same manner as data from the standard administration of state assessments. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, data from the results of test administrations using non-standard accommodations will be treated in the state ratings calculations in the same manner as in determination of Adequate Yearly Progress, in accordance with Federal regulation (*34 CFR Parts 200 and 300, Title I – Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities*, Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 67, April 9, 2007) and Non-Regulatory Guidance (*Modified Achievement Standards: Non-Regulatory Guidance, Section F-6.*, US Department of Education, July 20, 2007). Performance data from such students will be awarded zero points for the calculation of the absolute Indices; data from the students will be included in both the numerator and denominator of the index. Data from students administered the SC-Alternate Assessment will be used in the calculation of district ratings only. Data from students having Limited English Proficiency (LEP) will be used in school and district ratings as available in accordance with federal regulations.

- Absolute performance ratings for districts: Any student who is enrolled in a district at the time of the 45-day enrollment count and on the first day of testing will be included in the absolute performance rating for a district for the ratings year, even if he or she has changed schools within the district. All other conditions stipulated for schools will apply for district ratings. The Education Accountability Act was amended in 2006 (Section 59-18-920) to direct that data from students attending a charter school authorized by a local school district are not to be included in the calculation of the local school district ratings. Ratings for charter schools authorized by a local school district are to be reported separately on the school district report card. Ratings for charter schools within the SC Public Charter School District (SCPCSD) will be reported on the SCPCSD report card.

The student performance data for students attending multi-district schools in which 100 percent of the students have Individualized Education Plans and in which 90

percent or more of the students are assessed with the SC-Alternate Assessments should be included in the data reported for each student's home district. The data from students attending such special schools also will be reported on the special school's report card.

- Growth Ratings for grades three through eight: Data from any student will be included if he or she is enrolled in a school (or district) on the forty-fifth day, the student's posttest data can be matched to data statewide from the previous year, and the student has valid state assessment test scores for both years, even if the student attended a different school during the previous year.