

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Janet Barresi
DATE: February 28, 2013
SUBJECT: ACE End of Course Projects

State Board approval is requested for adding a Category B version and a Category C version of each of the previously approved ACE End of Course Projects as alternate methods for meeting ACE graduation requirements.

70 O.S. § 1210.523, which became effective July 1, 2006, states

Students who do not [demonstrate mastery by scoring at least at the proficient level on the end of instruction exams] may graduate from a public high school with a standard diploma by demonstrating mastery of state academic content standards by alternative methods as approved by the State Board of Education.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules providing for necessary student exceptions and exemptions to the requirements of this section.

The State Board of Education has previously approved 25 ACE End of Course Projects for meeting this graduation requirement as listed in the attachment.

With the adoption of these new End of Course Project options, End of Course Projects will now be classified by the State Department of Education in three different categories: Category A, Category B, or Category C. Previously approved projects will be identified as Category A Projects. The Category A Projects shall be offered to all students who choose the Alternate Method. Category B and C Projects shall be offered to students as directed by an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for students with disabilities and/or Language Instruction Educational Plan (LIEP) for English language learners. Category B and C Projects shall incorporate additional, varied approaches for students to demonstrate mastery, including, but not limited to, modifications, accommodations,

and/or alternate achievement standards identified as necessary by the student's IEP and/or LIEP. Category C projects shall be offered to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities and have been designed for students who are participating in a curriculum based on the Curriculum Access Resource Guide Alternate (CARG-A) in accordance with the student's IEP.

The proposed ACE End of Course Projects were developed by committees of teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders. Each project includes a confidential *Student Guide* and *Project Coordinator and Evaluation Panel Guide* with scoring criteria that must be used by schools to evaluate student performance on the project.

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Attachments