



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

**EDUCATION**

## **OSSE Statewide Assessment and Accountability Waiver: COVID-19**

(Updated: April 2, 2020)

On March 20, Mayor Bowser announced that all District of Columbia public schools will be closed until April 27, 2020. In light of this announcement, OSSE made the decision to cancel statewide summative assessments for students in spring 2020, and to suspend the calculation of new STAR ratings for SY 2019-20.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Education, pursuant to section 8401(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, provided states with an opportunity to submit waivers of federal requirements relating to assessment, accountability, and some reporting components on state report cards. In line with our decision to suspend assessment and school accountability for school year 2019-20, OSSE, as the state education agency for the District of Columbia, has submitted a waiver to U.S. Department of Education. The waiver applies to the following federal requirements: the administration of required statewide assessments, accountability and school identification of comprehensive and targeted support schools, and related report card provisions.

OSSE has received approval from the U.S. Department of Education for the waiver. The waiver may be found [here](#).

Please review [OSSE's website](#) for the official policy guidance on the suspension of statewide assessments and impacts on the accountability system for the 2019-2020 school year.

As required by the U.S. Department of Education, OSSE shall provide opportunity for the public to review and provide comment on this waiver. Public comment may be submitted to [DCSchoolReportCard@dc.gov](mailto:DCSchoolReportCard@dc.gov). Comments will be accepted until April 13, 2020.

Questions related to statewide assessments should be directed to Danielle Branson at [Danielle.Branson@dc.gov](mailto:Danielle.Branson@dc.gov) and questions related to accountability should be directed to Donna Johnson at [DonnaR.Johnson@dc.gov](mailto:DonnaR.Johnson@dc.gov).