



Board of Education
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Superintendent:
Dr. Will Hoffman

September 22, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The North Carolina Department of Public Education Accountability Services Division is committed to evaluating how students are learning and where we must make improvement based on performance indicators, progress indicators, and growth indicators.

North Carolina Testing Program

The following tests will be given during the 2020-2021 school year. It is required that all student participate in the state testing program.

Elementary and Middle School Grades 3-8

Students at grade 3 take the Beginning-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading Test between by the 20th day of face-to-face instruction.

Students at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 take End-of-Grade tests in English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics during the last 10 days of the school year.

Students in grades 5 and 8 take End-of-Grade tests in English Language Arts/Reading, Mathematics, and Science during the last 10 days of the school year.

All students identified as limited English proficient must be annually assessed to determine progress and level of English language proficiency.

High School Grades 9-12

Students who are enrolled for credit in courses where End-of-Course (EOC) exam is required shall take the appropriate End-of-Course test.

End-of-Course tests are given during the last 5 days of the instructional period for 4x4/semester courses or the last 10 days of the instructional period for traditional/yearlong courses.

Students at grade 10 take the PreACT (curriculum-based educational and career planning assessment that measures achievement in English, Math, Reading, and Science) in October.

Students at grade 11 take the ACT (college admission and placement test evaluating learning in English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing) in February.

Students in grade 12 who are identified as Career and Technical Education concentrators are required to take the Workkeys assessments.

For the 2020-2021 school year: EOC tests are available for the following subjects: Math 1, Math 3, Biology, and English II.

Per State Board of Education policy, schools are to use results from all End-of-Course, Career and Technical Education State Assessments, and teacher-made Final Exams as at least twenty (20%) of the student's final grade for each respective course.

All students identified as limited English proficient must be annually assessed to determine progress and level of English language proficiency.

State-Identified English Language Proficiency

Language minority students are identified using the home language survey process.

The state-identified English language proficiency test is administered to eligible students in Kindergarten through grade 12.

The WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) is administered to all initially enrolled language minority students in Kindergarten and the WIDA Screener is administered to all initially enrolled language minority students in grades 1-13 within 30 calendar days at the beginning of the school year or 14 calendar days of enrollment if the student enrolls after the beginning to the school year.

All students identified as limited English proficient must be administered the Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs) during the annual testing window.

The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is an assessment of English language proficiency for students in grades 1-12 who are identified as language minority students and have significant cognitive disabilities.

NCEXTEND 1

NCEXTEND1 is an alternate assessment designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEPs).

The assessment process requires students to complete performance-based, multiple-choice items in the following areas; English Language Arts/Reading at grades 3-8, 10, and 11, Mathematics at grades 3-8, 10, and 11, and Science at grades 5, 8, 10, and 11, during the designated windows.

College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment (CCRAA)

College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment is an alternate assessment for eligible students with disabilities who have an Individual Education Plan (IEPs).

For eligible students at grade 10 this is an alternate assessment for participation in the PreACT administered in October.

For eligible students at grade 11 this is an alternate assessment for participation in the ACT administered in February.

For additional information about the North Carolina Testing Program, visit the Accountability Services Division website: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/testing-and-school-accountability/school-accountability-and-reporting>

Additional Local Testing

iStation- K-3

All Kindergarten through 3rd grade students' basic reading skills are assessed using iStation. Istation's Indicators of Progress (ISIP™) Early Reading is a sophisticated, web-delivered computer-adaptive testing (CAT) system that provides continuous progress monitoring (CPM) by frequently assessing and reporting student ability in critical domains of reading throughout the academic year. Plus, K-3 teachers and students can access the [ISIP Oral Reading Fluency assessment](#), which provides the opportunity for students to demonstrate their reading accuracy through the oral reading of text and the collection of a running record. The state of North Carolina requires this assessment for all students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Case21 Lexile Assessment for 3rd Grade

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) – grade 3 (k-12 individual CogAT assessment given upon request)

The CogAT is a brief assessment to measure three separate cognitive domains for a more complete perspective on a student's reasoning abilities. The three domains include non-verbal, verbal, and quantitative tests to measure a student's school ability. It is used locally to provide information for the AIG program. Students in grade 3 are tested each year.

NC Check-Ins- grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9

Students in selected schools are assessed in Reading (grades 4-8) and Math (grades 3-8) using NC Check-Ins. Students in grades 5 and 8 are assessed in Science using NC Check-Ins.

School Net- grades 9-12

Students at Madison High are assessed twice per year in grades 9-12 in English, History, Science, Math, and in CTE using School Net.

Aimsweb – grades K, 1, and 2

All elementary students in grades K-2 are assessed twice per year in math using Aimsweb.

mClass: DIBELS- grades 4-5

Students in grades 4-5 are assessed 3 times a year in: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Please call your student's school if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Caroline Davis
Director of Testing and Accountability