

Revising High School Grading Requirements

Revision of Rule 6A-1.09981, F.A.C.

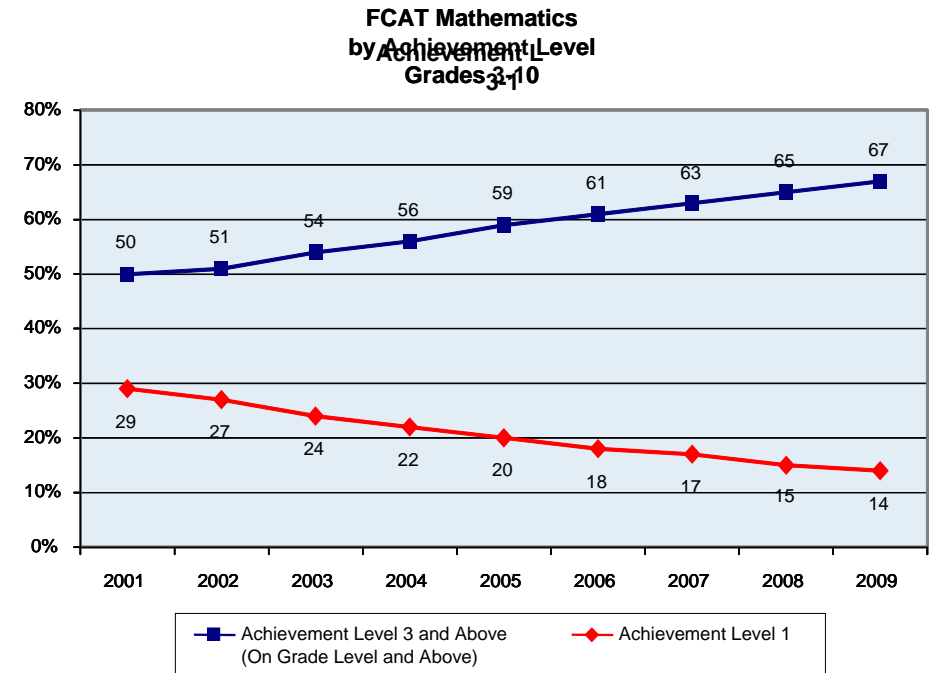
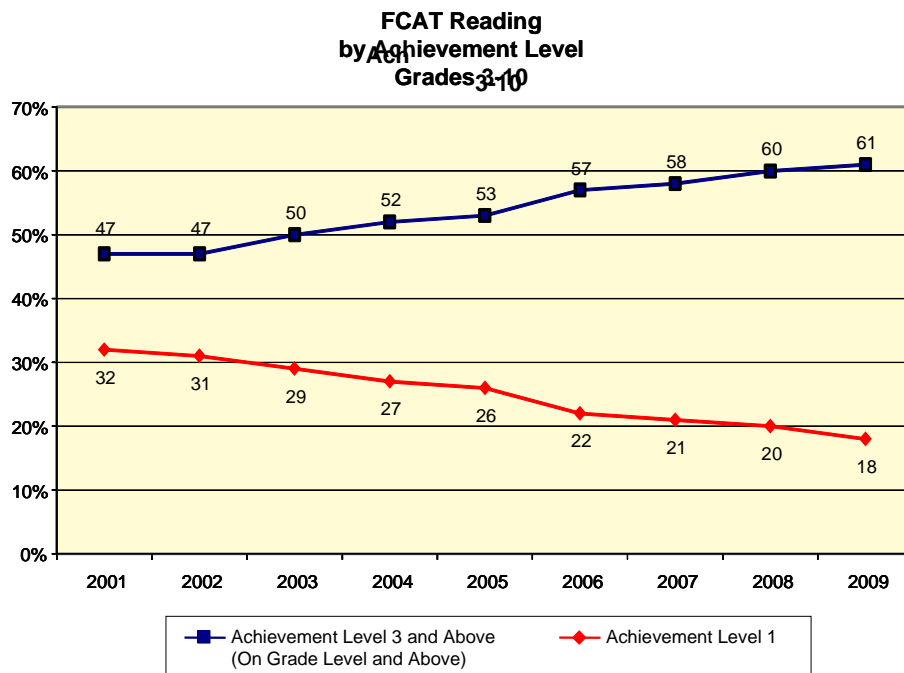


What is the Purpose of this Rule Change?

- **Senate Bill 1908** (2008 Legislative Session) requires a significant change to the way high schools are graded beginning with the 2009-10 School Year.
- In addition to the vital foundation of assessment results in Grades 9, 10, and 11 (Science), the law requires an **equal focus** be placed on:
 - **Access to rigorous, accelerated coursework**, as well as **performance** in rigorous, accelerated coursework.
 - **College Readiness**
 - **Graduation rates** for all students as well as those academically at-risk.

Why Change the Way we Grade our High Schools?

- Over the past decade, Florida has shown **tremendous progress** in the foundation skills of reading and mathematics proficiency through Grade 10



Why Change the Way we Grade our High Schools?

- State and national expectations are rising for our high schools
 - In 2007, 54 percent of high school graduates who enrolled in community college required remediation in at least one subject.
- The high school accountability system demands:
 - More rigorous standards and assessments
 - Alignment between high school and college readiness and high-skill/high-wage employment
 - Focus on access, rigor, and readiness

Timeline

Task	Completion Date
Develop models	Completed
Vet with External Stakeholders	On-going; Began in Fall 2008
Regional Rule Development Workshops	May 2009; Three Held Across the State
Rule Considered for Adoption by the State Board of Education	September 15, 2009
Release New School Grades for High Schools	Fall 2010

New Component #1: Graduation Rate

Graduate Rate Methods	Students Not Included in the Calculation	Graduates	Non-Graduates
<p>For use in 2009-10 and 2010-11</p> <p>National Governors Association (NGA) Rate</p>	<p>Students who transfer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other schools (public, private, or Dept. of Juvenile Justice facilities); • Home-education programs; • Adult education programs <p>Deceased students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Diploma recipients • Special Diploma recipients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropouts • Certificate of Completion recipients • GED recipients • Continuing enrollees who are not on-time graduates
<p>For use beginning in 2011-12</p> <p>New Federal Uniform Rate</p> <p>*Note: If federal requirements for the uniform rate change in the interim, Florida's federal uniform rate calculation will be adjusted accordingly.</p>	<p>Students who transfer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other schools (public or private) • Home-education programs <p>Deceased students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Diploma recipients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropouts • Certificate of Completion recipients • GED recipients • Continuing enrollees who are not on-time graduates • <u>Special Diplomas</u> • <u>Transfers to Adult education programs or Dept. of Juvenile Justice facilities who are not standard diploma recipients.</u>

New Component #2A: Participation in Accelerated Coursework

Proposed Calculation:

Numerator	Denominator
9th-12th* graders that completed an accelerated exam or dual enrollment course during the academic year (weighted)	All 11th-12th graders

- For a school to receive credit for participation in an accelerated course that ends in an exam (e.g., AP, IB, AICE), the student must take the exam.
- For dual enrollment, a student must earn a grade in the course for a school to receive credit for participation.
- For industry certification, a student must have taken an industry certification exam on the SBE approved “Industry Certification Funding List” for the year.
- *To help ensure that 9th and 10th graders taking acceleration exams/courses are prepared to take those exams/courses, schools will only receive participation credit for 9th and 10th graders who successfully complete the acceleration (pass the AP, IB, and/or AICE exam, pass the dual enrollment course, pass the industry certification exam).

Acceleration Participation

In the formula, schools would earn weighted credit for the number of exams/courses a student takes. Below is the proposed weighting system to accommodate multiple exams or dual enrollment courses taken by students:

Weight	Participation Outcome
1.00	1 Exam/Course Taken
1.10	2 Exams/Courses Taken
1.20	3 Exams/Courses Taken
1.30	4 Exams/Courses Taken
1.40	5 Exams/Courses Taken
+ 0.1	For Each Additional Exam/Course Taken

- **No cap is proposed for participation. That is, following the logic above, schools will earn an increasing amount of credit for those students who take increasing numbers of accelerated courses/exams. For example, the student who takes 7 exams/courses will be weighted at 1.6; a student who takes 8 will be weighted 1.7; and so on.**

Acceleration Participation – EXAMPLE

John Doe completes 3 Dual Enrollment courses; 2 AP exams; and 1 industry certification exam. Here are his results:

Accelerated Exam/Course	Exam/Course Taken
Dual Enrollment Course 1	1
Dual Enrollment Course 2	1
Dual Enrollment Course 3	1
AP Exam 1	1
AP Exam 2	1
Industry Certification Exam	1
Total Exams/Courses Taken	6
His Weight in the Formula	1.50

New Component #2B: Performance in Accelerated Coursework

Proposed Calculation:

Numerator	Denominator
Number of successful outcomes in accelerated coursework (weighted) by a student	All 9th-12th graders that took an accelerated exam/course during the academic year

New Component #2B: Performance in Accelerated Coursework

Weighting Proposal for Performance

- Measure will be based on credits earned.
 - Depending on their score on AP, IB, and/or AICE, students will receive weight in the formula based on the number of postsecondary courses for which the student earns credit as determined by the Articulation Coordinating Committee's Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies List.
(<http://www.fldoe.org/articulation/pdf/ACC-CBE.pdf>)
 - Successful completion (a "C" or higher) of a Dual Enrollment course leads to students earning credit in one course.
 - Successful passage of an Industry Certification exam.

New Component #2B: Performance in Accelerated Coursework

Successful Outcomes are defined as:

AP	
Score of 3	1 Successful Outcome
Score of 4 or 5	1 or 2 Successful Outcomes (depending on ACC Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies)
IB	
Score of 4	1 Successful Outcome
Score of 5, 6, or 7	1 or 2 Successful Outcomes (depending on ACC Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies)
AICE	
Passing Score on an AS Level AICE Exam	1 Successful Outcome
Passing Score on an A Level AICE Exam	1 or 2 Successful Outcomes (depending on ACC Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies)
Dual Enrollment	
Passing grade of “C” or higher in the course	1 Successful Outcome
Industry Certification	
Earning an industry certification by exam	1 or multiple successful outcomes based on statewide articulation agreements (http://www.fl DOE.org/workforce/dwdframe/artic_frame.asp)

Acceleration Performance

In the formula, schools would earn weighted credit for the number of successful outcomes a student earns. Here is the proposed weighting system to accommodate multiple successes by students:

Weight	Performance Outcome
1.00	1 Successful Outcome
1.10	2 Successful Outcomes
1.20	3 Successful Outcomes
1.30	4 Successful Outcomes
1.40	5 Successful Outcomes
+ 0.1	For Each Additional Successful Outcome

- **No cap is proposed for performance. That is, following the logic above, schools will earn an increasing amount of credit for those students who successfully complete increasing amounts of accelerated coursework. For example, the student who earns 7 successful outcomes will be weighted at 1.6; a student who earns 8 will be weighted 1.7; and so on.**

Acceleration Performance – EXAMPLE

John Doe takes 3 Dual Enrollment courses; 2 AP exams; and 1 industry certification exam. Here are his results:

Accelerated Course	Score/Grade	Successful Completion
Dual Enrollment Course 1	“C”	1
Dual Enrollment Course 2	“C”	1
Dual Enrollment Course 3	“D”	0
AP Exam 1	2	0
AP Exam 2 (in English)	4	2
Industry Certification Exam	Passed	1
Total Successful Completions		5
His Weight in the Formula		1.40

New Component #3: Postsecondary Readiness

Proposed Calculation:

Numerator	Denominator
Number of students scoring “ready” on SAT, ACT, and/or CPT any time during their high school careers	On-time high school graduates who scored a Level 3 or higher on the 10th Grade FCAT in Reading or Mathematics (depending on component)

- Separate Measures for Reading and Math.
- If student takes multiple tests (ACT, SAT, or CPT), the student’s highest score by subtest is used.
- The scores used to define “ready” are set in State Board of Education Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C.
- This measure will be based on all on-time standard high school graduates beginning no later than 2011-12.

New Component #4:

Graduation Rate for At-Risk Students

- Track the 4-year high school graduation rate of students who scored a Level 2 or lower on both FCAT Reading and Mathematics in 8th Grade.
- If a school does not have at least 10 students in that subgroup, the school's overall graduation rate will be substituted for this measure.

New Component #5:

Growth or Decline in components

- Schools earn an escalating number of points based on the magnitude of their improvement.
- Additional points would be awarded based on the number of points the school improved (growth from prior year); up to 20 additional points.
- Schools will lose 5 points if a component declines by at least 10 percentage points.

- **EXAMPLES**
- **GROWTH**: A school's acceleration performance improves from 25% to 32%; the school earns an additional 7 points resulting in a total of 39 points (32 + 7).
- **DECLINE**: A school's acceleration performance declines from 30% to 20%; the school would lose an additional 5 points resulting in a total of 15 points (20 – 5).

Additional Requirement – At-Risk Graduation Rate

- Law stipulates that in order for a school that earns enough points for an “A” to be awarded an “A”, the school’s at-risk graduation rate must meet a certain threshold to ensure “adequate progress.”
- **Recommended Threshold:**
 - **75%; or**
 - **1 percentage point improvement over the prior year if percentage is within 10 points of the target**
 - **5 percentage point improvement over the prior year if percentage is beyond 10 points of the target**
- This requirement is akin to the current learning gains requirement for the Low 25%.

New High School Grade

<p>50% on FCAT Components 800 Points Possible</p>	<p>50% on New High School Components 800 Points Possible</p>
<p>TOTAL POINTS (FCAT + New High School Components) 1600 Points Possible</p>	<p>Grade Scale</p> <p>A \geq 1050</p> <p>B 990 to 1049</p> <p>C 870 to 989</p> <p>D 790 to 869</p> <p>F $<$ 790</p>

FCAT Components (50% of the Grade)

READING	MATH	WRITING	SCIENCE
Performance 100 possible pts.	Performance 100 possible pts.	Performance 100 possible pts.	Performance 100 possible pts.
Learning Gains 100 possible pts.	Learning Gains 100 possible pts.	TOTAL FCAT POINTS 800 POINTS	
Learning Gains of Lowest 25% 100 possible pts.	Learning Gains of Lowest 25% 100 possible pts.		

PLUS 11th and 12th grade retakes for possible bonus points (10) – High schools earn ten bonus points when half of all 11th and 12th graders retaking the FCAT meet the graduation requirement.

New High School Components

NEW 50% (with points possible)

GRADUATION	ACCELERATION	READINESS	GROWTH/DECLINE
Overall Rate 200	Participation 200 (in 2009-10) 175 (in 2010-11) 150 (in 2011-12)	Performance on Reading 100	For each component schools may earn up to 20 additional points for GROWTH (40 points for factors worth 200 points)
At-Risk Rate 100	Performance 100 (in 2009-10) 125 (in 2010-11) 150 (in 2011-12)	Performance on Math 100	For each component schools may lose 5 additional points for DECLINE (10 points for factors worth 200 points)
Total Graduation Points 300	Total Acceleration Points 300	Total Readiness Points 200	Total NEW HIGH SCHOOL Points Possible 800

- All components are percentages. Those components weighted twice as much as others reflect a calculated percentage that is doubled (e.g., School X has a 75% graduation rate – School X earns 150 points (75*2) for that component).
- All component values are capped at their maximum values. That is, if a school earns points in excess of the total for a particular component – through the growth adjustment or the escalating weights in the acceleration components – the school will receive the maximum points for that component.

Sample New High School Grade Calculation



New High School Components: Graduation Rates – Sample School

Component	Prior Year (PY)	Current Year (CY)	Points Earned (CY + (CY – PY))
Overall Graduation Rate	65%	68%	$(68 + (68 - 65)) =$ 71
At-Risk Graduation Rate	57%	57%	$(57 + (57 - 57)) =$ 57

New High School Components: Acceleration Participation – Sample School

	Number of 11 th and 12 th Graders	Number of Students who took 1 Acceleration Exam or Course (# x 1.00)	Number of Students who took 2 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.10)	Number of Students who took 3 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.20)	Number of Students who took 4 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.30)	Number of Students who took 5 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.40)	Rate
Current Year (CY)	400	$30 \times 1.00 = 30$	$20 \times 1.10 = 22$	$30 \times 1.20 = 36$	$10 \times 1.30 = 13$	$5 \times 1.40 = 7$	$(30+22+36+13+7) / 400 = 27\%$
Prior Year (PY)	350	$15 \times 1.00 = 15$	$10 \times 1.10 = 11$	$15 \times 1.20 = 18$	$5 \times 1.30 = 6.5$	$3 \times 1.40 = 4.2$	$(15+11+18+6.5+4.2) / 350 = 16\%$
Points Earned							$(27 + (27 - 16)) = 38$

New High School Components: Acceleration Performance – Sample School

	Number of Students who completed Acceleration Exams or Courses	Number of Students who passed 1 Acceleration Exam or Course (# x 1.00)	Number of Students who passed 2 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.10)	Number of Students who passed 3 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.20)	Number of Students who passed 4 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.30)	Number of Students who passed 5 Acceleration Exams or Courses (# x 1.40)	Rate
Current Year (CY)	95	15 x 1.00 = 15	8 x 1.10 = 8.8	20 x 1.20 = 24	8 x 1.30 = 10.4	1 x 1.40 = 1.4	$(15+8.8 + 24+10.4 +1.4) / 95 = 63\%$
Prior Year (PY)	48	9 x 1.00 = 9	7 x 1.10 = 7.7	11 x 1.20 = 13.2	3 x 1.30 = 3.9	0 x 1.40 = 0	$(9+7.7+ 13.2 +3.9+ 0) / 48 = 70\%$
Points Earned							No Growth No 10 point decline 63

New High School Components: Postsecondary Readiness – Sample School

	Percent “Ready” in Reading	Percent “Ready” in Math
Current Year (CY)	62%	50%
Prior Year (PY)	61%	45%
Points Earned	No Growth; No 10 pt. Decline 62	$(50 + (50 - 45) = 55$

New High School Components

NEW 50% (with points possible) – Sample School

GRADUATION	ACCELERATION	READINESS	
Overall Rate $71 * 2 =$ 142	Participation $38 * 2 =$ 76	Performance on Reading 71	
At-Risk Rate 57	Performance 63	Performance on Math 55	
Total Graduation Points 199	Total Acceleration Points 139	Total Readiness Points 126	Total NEW HIGH SCHOOL Points Possible 464

FCAT Components (50% of the Grade) – Sample School

READING	MATH	WRITING	SCIENCE
Performance 46	Performance 74	Performance 82	Performance 40
Learning Gains 51	Learning Gains 75	TOTAL FCAT POINTS 485	
Learning Gains of Lowest 25% 50	Learning Gains of Lowest 25% 67		

New High School Grade – Sample School

<p>50% on FCAT Components</p> <p>485</p>	<p>50% on New High School Components</p> <p>464</p>
<p>TOTAL POINTS (FCAT + New High School Components)</p> <p>949</p>	<p>Grade A \geq 1050 B 990 to 1049 C 870 to 989 D 790 to 869 F < 790</p> <p>School Earns a “C”</p>

Other Changes to Rule 6A-1.09981



Other Changes to Rule 6A-1.09981

- Cell-size criteria for science and writing in School Grades
- Updated procedure for determining percentage of students proficient in writing
- Inclusion of Florida Alternate Assessment results for students with disabilities in calculating learning gains for reading and math

Cell-size criteria for science and writing in School Grades

- The minimum cell-size for the writing and science components for school grades will be reduced from 30 students to 10 students.
- If a school has fewer than 10 students with writing (or science) scores, the school will receive the district average for writing (or science).
- Prior to this proposed rule change, schools with fewer than 30 students received the district average in writing and/or science in lieu of the school's actual performance.
- This will increase the number of schools whose actual writing and science performance will be reported as part of School Grades

Updated procedure for determining percentage of students proficient in writing

- Beginning in 2009-10, FCAT writing essays at grades 4, 8, and 10 will be scored by one reader (as opposed to two, as was done in prior years).
- A score of 3.5 in writing in grades 4, 8, and 10 will no longer be possible.
- To accommodate this change, the average of the percentage of students scoring a 3 and above and the percentage of students scoring a 4 and above will be used for the writing component of school grades.

Inclusion of Florida Alternate Assessment results in calculating learning gains

- Section 1008.34(3)(b)(1)b, Florida Statutes, requires that learning gains for students seeking a special diploma, as measured by an alternate assessment tool, shall be included in School Grades no later than the 2009-10 school year.
- The Florida Alternate Assessment has nine separate performance levels, ranging from 1 to 9, with 4 or higher equaling proficient.
- Propose defining a learning gain as an improvement in performance levels or the maintenance of a proficient level.