

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

F. PHILIP HANDY, *Chairman*

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Vice Chairman*

Members

DONNA G. CALLAWAY

JULIA L. JOHNSON

ROBERTO MARTINEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

LINDA K. TAYLOR

John L. Winn
Commissioner of Education



To: District School Superintendents
From: Jim Warford, K-12 Chancellor
Subject: Alternative Assessment Options for Meeting Grade 10 FCAT Graduation Requirements

Section 1008.301, Florida Statutes (FCAT equivalency; concordance study.--) requires the State Board of Education to conduct a concordance study to determine if crosswalk scores can be determined to be equivalent to those required on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for high school graduation.

The statute continues by stating that if such equivalencies can be determined, the State Board is authorized to adopt those scores as meeting the graduation requirement in lieu of the FCAT passing score. This provision shall take effect for students who are eligible to graduate in the 2003-2004 school year and thereafter. Therefore, based on the concordance studies adopted by the State Board of Education, twelfth grade students scheduled to graduate in the 2004-2005 school year who have attained the ACT or SAT scores concordant with the FCAT passing scores shown below shall satisfy the assessment requirement for a standard high school diploma as provided by Florida law [sections 1003.43(5)(a) (General requirements for high school graduation.--) and 1003.429(6)(a) (Accelerated high school graduation options.--), Florida Statutes].

Concordant Scores for 2004-2005			
Reading		Math	
FCAT	300	FCAT	300
SAT	410	SAT	370
ACT	15	ACT	15

School districts are responsible for identifying students who are eligible to use concordant scores on the SAT or ACT to satisfy the assessment requirement for graduation. Districts must document that students using this option have met all other graduation requirements pursuant to sections 1003.43 and 1003.429, Florida Statutes, and provide a process for documenting the concordant SAT and ACT scores. Students who meet all graduation requirements except

JIM WARFORD

K-12 CHANCELLOR

passing the FCAT and use the SAT or ACT to meet that requirement must be reported in Survey 5 using one of the following Withdrawal Codes:

- WFT – Any student who graduated from school with a standard diploma and satisfied the graduation test requirement through an alternate assessment.
- WFA – Any student who graduated from school with a standard diploma based on an 18-credit college preparatory graduation option and satisfied the graduation test requirement through an alternate assessment.
- WFB – Any student who graduated from school with a standard diploma based on an 18-credit career preparatory graduation option and satisfied the graduation test requirement through an alternate assessment.

If you have questions regarding the use of the alternate assessment option, please contact Mary Jo Butler at (850) 245-0479, Suncom 205-0479, or via email at maryjo.butler@fldoe.org.

JW:mjbo

cc: High School Principals
Guidance Supervisors