



2012—2013 Biology 1 End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment Fact Sheet

Biology 1 EOC Assessment Overview

The Florida Department of Education is transitioning to EOC assessments for certain courses. In spring 2012, students throughout the state participated in the Biology 1 EOC Assessment for the first time. The Biology 1 EOC Assessment measures student achievement of the [Next Generation Sunshine State Standards](#) (NGSSS), as outlined in the Biology 1 [course description](#). The schedule for implementing additional Florida EOC Assessments is posted at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/k12memo/pdf/tngcbtf.pdf>.

Students to be Tested in 2012-13

- All students enrolled in and completing one of the following courses:
 - Biology 1 – 2000310
 - Biology 1 Honors – 2000320
 - Pre-AICE Biology – 2000322
 - Biology Technology – 2000430
 - Biology 1 PreIB – 2000800
 - IB Middle Years Program Biology Honors – 2000850
 - Integrated Science 3 – 2002440
 - Integrated Science 3 Honors – 2002450
 - AP Biology – 2000340 (if taken to satisfy the high school Biology 1 graduation requirement)

In addition, the following students are eligible to participate in a Biology 1 EOC Assessment administration:

- Students who need to retake the assessment to earn a passing score for course credit, including students enrolled in credit recovery courses
- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year:
 - who have not yet taken the assessment to be averaged as 30 percent of their final course grade
 - who are in grade forgiveness programs and wish to retake the assessment to improve their course grade
- Students in a credit acceleration program (CAP) who wish to take the assessment to earn course credit

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of EOC assessments, see <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6155/1113sasb.pdf>. Biology 1 EOC Assessments will be administered according to the following schedule:

Winter Administration: November 28 – December 19, 2012

- Algebra 1 and Geometry EOC Assessments will be administered during the same window, and districts must complete Biology 1 testing before they may begin Algebra 1 testing.

Spring Administration: April 29 – May 10, 2013

- Districts may use the entire two weeks within the established window to administer the assessment; however, Biology 1 testing may not begin in a district until U.S. History testing has been completed.
- May 28 – 31, 2013, has been established as a statewide make-up window for students who were not tested during the spring administration.

Summer Administration: July 22 – August 9, 2013

- Biology 1 testing may not begin in a district until U.S. History testing has been completed.

Test Administration Information

- The Biology 1 EOC Assessment is delivered via a computer-based test (CBT) platform.
- Paper-based versions (regular print and braille) are provided for students with disabilities who require allowable accommodations, as specified in their individual educational plans (IEPs) or Section 504 plans.
- Paper-based large print versions will be available as a unique accommodation for CBT assessments beginning in spring 2013.
- The assessment is given in one 160-minute session with a 10-minute break after the first 80 minutes. Students are not allowed to talk during the break. As with FCAT 2.0 paper-based administrations, individual breaks may be allowed as needed. Students may not be dismissed during the first 80 minutes; however, after the 10-minute break, they may be dismissed as they complete the test.
- Although the assessment is scheduled for a 160-minute session, any student not finished by the end of the 160 minutes may continue working. Testing must be completed within the same school day.
- There are multiple forms of the assessment. There is a maximum of 66 multiple-choice items on each test form. Approximately six to 10 items are experimental (field test) items and are NOT used to calculate student scores. For more information, see the test design summary at: <http://fcats.fldoe.org/pdf/designsummary.pdf>.
- A four-function calculator is provided in the TestNav platform. Students may request the use of an approved, hand-held four-function calculator after they participate in a practice test and determine that they are not comfortable using the online calculator for testing.
- A Periodic Table of the Elements is provided in the TestNav platform. Schools may make copies of the periodic table provided in the *2012-13 End-of-Course Assessments Test Administration Manual* and distribute the copies to students if they prefer to use a hard copy.
- Students are provided with four-page, hard-copy work folders to use as scratch paper. Used folders are secure materials that must be collected after testing and stored or securely destroyed according to district assessment coordinators' instructions.

Scoring and Reporting

- **Equating**—Student results from the different test forms must be reviewed and compared to ensure that the difficulty level is the same for each test form. This process, called “equating,” takes place after testing when enough student scores are in the system to ensure that a representative sample of student results is available for use in the comparison.
- **Scale Scores**—Beginning with the winter 2012 administration, students will receive a scale score on the new Biology 1 EOC Assessment score scale of 325 to 475.
- **Achievement Levels**—The success a student has achieved with the NGSSS assessed by the Biology 1 EOC Assessment is indicated by Achievement Levels that range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. Students who entered grade 9 in the 2012-13 school year will be required to earn a passing score of Achievement Level 3 or higher in order to earn credit in the course. This requirement also applies to middle school students seeking high school course credit for Biology 1 or an equivalent. Scoring at or above Achievement Level 4 indicates the student is high achieving and has the potential to meet college-readiness standards by the time the student graduates from high school. The table below provides the scale score range for each Achievement Level.

**Achievement Levels for the
Biology 1 EOC Assessment Scale Scores (325 to 475)**

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
325-368	369-394	395-420	421-430	431-475

- **Course Grade**—For students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year and are enrolled in Biology 1, an equivalent course, or AP Biology 1 to meet the Biology 1 credit requirement for high school graduation, scores must be used to calculate 30 percent of the final course. Districts will be provided with a conversion table that may be used to convert the new scale scores into T scores, which are the scores that were reported in spring 2012. The T scores should then be factored into the student’s course grade in the same manner as in spring 2012.

Practice Test

Teachers, parents/guardians, and students can review the Biology 1 EOC Assessment computer-based practice test, called an ePAT. This tool is available online at www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT. Instructions for downloading the installer software and ePAT are also located on this site. Students are required to participate in a practice test at their school prior to testing.