

Private School Opportunity to Participate in FCAT 2.0/EOC Assessments Frequently Asked Questions for Districts

This document will be revised as questions are submitted to the FDOE. Please contact FLDOE.Assessment@fldoe.org to submit a question. This information is based on [Section 1002.395](#), Florida Statutes.

1. Q: What are districts required to provide?
A: Per statute, the school districts must train a school assessment coordinator from each approved private school, distribute and retrieve testing materials, assist the private school with submitting information for test administration and enrollment purposes, and provide any required assistance, monitoring, or investigation at a private school.
2. Q: Is the district responsible for training all private school staff?
A: No. The district is only responsible for training a school assessment coordinator and a technology coordinator for the private school. The school assessment coordinator is responsible for training private school staff.
3. Q: What assessments are the private schools required to administer?
A: The private schools are not **required** to administer any assessments, but they may select and administer any assessment included in Section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, as part of the application. They must also administer the selected assessments to all students in the grade/subject covered by the assessment. (For example, Grade 7 Reading should be administered to all Grade 7 students.)
4. Q: Do districts need to make private schools aware of this opportunity?
A: No, private schools will be contacted through the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program contacts and through the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice.
5. Q: Can districts charge private schools for participation in this program?
A: No, there is no support in statute for charging private schools for this service; Section 1002.395(9)(p), Florida Statutes, states "Upon the request of a participating private school, provide at no cost to the school the statewide assessments administered under s. 1008.22 and any related materials for administering the assessments."
6. Q: Will private schools participate in the PreID upload of student data?
A: Until we have a solution that would allow this to work, the private schools will need to hand-grid or key student data for the assessments and they cannot participate in district PreID uploads.
7. Q: Will private schools be allowed to test outside of the district's testing schedule?
A: No. Private schools were required to review the state testing schedule and to contact the appropriate district for specific testing windows prior to submitting the application. (If the

district has not determined testing windows for 2013-14, a best estimate should be provided to the private school.)

8. Q: If there is an issue at a private school, must the district investigate the issue?

A: Yes.

9. Q: How will the private schools assign student identification numbers for their participating students?

A: This question is still under discussion. In general, assigning student identification numbers is a district responsibility. Unless another solution is found, this may continue to be the case for this program.

10. Q: Will Caveon analyze private school results?

A: Yes. Private schools will not be treated differently from public schools with regards to Caveon.

11. Q: How will results be reported for private schools?

A: At this time, paper results and media will be shipped to the districts for the private schools and should be distributed to the schools. The private schools will work with the districts to manage the distribution and retrieval of assessment results. Private school data will not be aggregated with district or state data, and the current plan does not include the results being posted to PearsonAccess.

12. Q: If a private school does not have sufficient resources (e.g., certified educators, computers), does the district need to supply those resources?

A: No. Each private school was required to analyze its resources prior to applying and attest to the school's ability to participate.

13. Q: Will any testing rules or policies be amended for private schools?

A: No, private schools must abide by all testing rules and policies. The only exception is the participation in the PreID upload.

14. Q: Private schools may not have Individual Education Plans or 504 Plans. How will they determine the students that should have accommodations?

A: Similar to public schools, accommodations should only be ordered and used for students who regularly use the same permissible accommodations in the classroom and on classroom assessments.