

### FCAT 2.0 Science, FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake, and FCAT Mathematics Retake Overview

Beginning with the 2014-15 academic year, the Florida Department of Education is transitioning to the new Florida Standards Assessments (FSA), which replace the FCAT 2.0 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics. For more information on these new assessments, please visit the [FSA Portal](#). Florida students still participate in the science and social studies assessments aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS). This fact sheet focuses on the Grades 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science and the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake NGSSS assessments that will continue to be administered. In addition, the FCAT Mathematics Retake aligned to the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) will be administered for the last time in spring 2015. For information on Florida’s Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History EOC Assessments, see the NGSSS EOC Fact Sheet.

### Students to be Tested in 2014-15

- Students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 will participate in FCAT 2.0 Science
- Students who need to pass the FCAT Mathematics Retake or FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake for graduation purposes

### Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the [2014-15 Statewide Assessment Schedule](#).

- **Spring FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake and FCAT Mathematics Retake:** March 23–April 10, 2014
  - Accommodated paper-based tests completed by April 3
- **FCAT 2.0 Science:** April 13–May 8, 2015

### Computer-Based Testing

- The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake and FCAT Mathematics Retake are delivered via a computer-based test (CBT) platform called TestNav. Beginning with the winter 2014 administration, a browser-based version of the platform, TestNav8, will be used for NGSSS assessments. The previous version, TestNav 6.9, will no longer be used.
- Paper-based versions (regular print, large print, one-item-per-page, and braille) are provided for students with disabilities who cannot access assessments on the computer, as specified in their individual educational plans (IEPs) or Section 504 plans.
- CBT accommodations (e.g., text-to-speech) are available for students whose IEPs indicate these accommodations.
- **For the spring 2015 administration:** Computer-based practice tests for the new browser-based platform (TestNav8) will be available at [www.FLAssessments.com/epats](http://www.FLAssessments.com/epats) for student practice prior to the spring FCAT/ FCAT 2.0 Retake administration. Teachers, parents/guardians, and students can review the browser-based ePAT for each assessment. All students participating in the spring retake administration and beyond must use the updated practice test prior to the administration due to the implementation of the new platform.
- Paper-based regular-print practice tests are available for student use: <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/fcat2.stml>. Districts may order paper-based practice materials for students participating with large print or braille accommodations.

### Test Administration Information

Information regarding the number of items and content areas of each FCAT 2.0 assessment can be found in the [Test Design Summary](#).

- FCAT 2.0 Science
  - Grades 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science will be administered in two 80-minute sessions with a break in the middle of each session. Grade 5 sessions are administered over two days. Grade 8 sessions are administered on the same day.
  - Students in grade 8 will receive a hand-held, four-function calculator and a Periodic Table of the Elements for use during the FCAT 2.0 Science sessions.
- FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake
  - The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake will be administered in two sessions over two days. Students have up to half of a typical school day to complete each session.
  - FCAT 2.0 Reading consists of multiple-choice items only.
  - Students taking a CBT Reading assessment will receive a worksheet for taking notes.
- FCAT Mathematics Retake
  - The FCAT Mathematics Retake will be administered in one day. Students have up to the length of a typical school day to complete the test.
  - The FCAT Mathematics Retake consists of multiple-choice and gridded-response items.
  - Students will receive a four-page work folder and a reference sheet. A four-function calculator is available in the CBT platform.
  - The [Test Design Summary](#) provides more details on the FCAT Mathematics Retake.

### Scoring and Reporting

- FCAT 2.0 Reading and Science results will be reported using the following three measures:
  - **Scale Scores**—The FCAT 2.0 Reading score scales range from 140–302, and the FCAT 2.0 Science score scales range from 140–260 for both grades 5 and 8. The FCAT Mathematics Retake score scale ranges from 100–500.
  - **Content Area Scores**—Content area scores are reported as the actual number of points earned out of the number of points possible for each reporting category. The number of points earned is the number of questions a student answered correctly. Reporting categories represent groups of similar skills, or benchmarks, which are assessed within each grade level and subject area. The state mean for each reporting category is also provided to allow for comparisons to average performance statewide.
  - **Achievement Levels**—The success a student has achieved with the NGSSS assessed by FCAT 2.0 Science and FCAT 2.0 Reading is described by Achievement Levels that range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. Table 1 provides the scale score range for each FCAT 2.0 Science Achievement Level, and Table 2 provides the scale score range for each FCAT 2.0 Reading Achievement Level. Table 3 displays the Achievement Levels and passing score for FCAT Mathematics. The passing score for FCAT Mathematics is a scale score of 300, which is in Achievement Level 2.

**Table 1: Achievement Levels for the  
FCAT 2.0 Science Scale Scores (140–260)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
5	140-184	185-199	200-214	215-224	225-260
8	140-184	185-202	203-214	215-224	225-260

**Table 2: Achievement Levels for the  
FCAT 2.0 Reading Developmental Scale Scores (140–302)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
10	188-227	228-244	245-255	256-270	271-302

**Table 3: Achievement Levels for the  
FCAT Mathematics Retake Scale Scores (100–500) (Passing scale score: 300)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
10	100-286	287-314	315-339	340-374	375-500

- When scores are reported for an assessment, schools will receive a shipment of hard-copy reports to be distributed to students and parents/guardians. For more information about score reports, please see the document *Understanding FCAT 2.0 Reports* posted at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/fcat2.stml>.

#### Passing Score Requirements

- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 school years must score in Achievement Level 3 or above on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading (or earn a concordant score on the ACT or SAT) for graduation purposes.
- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2009-10 school year or prior must earn passing scores on Grade 10 FCAT Mathematics Retake (or earn a concordant score on the ACT or SAT) for graduation purposes.