

Statewide Science Assessment and FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake Overview

This fact sheet provides information about the Grades 5 and 8 Statewide Science Assessment and the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake that measure student achievement of the [Next Generation Sunshine State Standards](#) (NGSSS).

Students to Be Tested in 2017–18

- **Statewide Science Assessment**
 - Students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 will participate in the Statewide Science Assessment.
 - Students receiving accelerated instruction in science may participate in the appropriate Statewide Science Assessment.
 - In accordance with section 1008.22(3)(b)2., Florida Statutes, middle grades students will not be tested on both the Statewide Science Assessment and the Biology 1 EOC Assessment. Students enrolled in Biology 1 must take the EOC assessment, not the Statewide Science Assessment.
- **FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake***
 - Students who entered Grade 9 in the 2009–10 school year through the 2012–13 school year and are pursuing a standard Florida high school diploma must pass the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading test or obtain a concordant score on the ACT or SAT as one of the requirements for graduation. Students eligible to participate in this administration are as follows:
 - Adult students who did not pass the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading test and have not yet passed the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake or earned a concordant score.
 - Students who enrolled in Grade 9 prior to the 2009–10 school year but did not pass the Grade 10 FCAT Reading test or Retake. Because the FCAT Reading Retake is no longer offered, these students will participate in the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake.
 - Students who entered Grade 9 in 2013–14 and beyond are required to pass the Grade 10 Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) Assessment.

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the [2017–18 Statewide Assessment Schedule](#). Please note that the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake will be administered for the final time in Spring 2018.

Test Administration Information

- **Statewide Science Assessment**
 - The Statewide Science Assessment is administered as a paper-best test (PBT).
 - Test materials for paper-based accommodations (large print, braille, one-item-per-page) are available for students whose IEPs or Section 504 plans indicate these accommodations.
 - The Statewide Science Assessment is administered in two 80-minute sessions. Grade 5 Science is administered over two days; Grade 8 Science is administered in one day.
 - Students taking the Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment will receive a hand-held, four-function calculator and a Periodic Table of the Elements for use during the assessment.
 - The Statewide Science Assessments consists of multiple-choice items only.
- **FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake**
 - The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake is delivered via a computer-based test (CBT) platform called TestNav 8.

- Paper-based versions (regular print, large print, one-item-per-page and braille) of the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake 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., masking) are available for students whose IEPs or Section 504 plans indicate these accommodations.
- The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake will be administered in two sessions over two days. Students have up to half a typical school day to complete each session.
- The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake consists of multiple-choice items only.

Practice Tests

- **Computer-based practice tests** (ePATs) for the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake are available on [PearsonAccess Next](#). Teachers, parents/guardians and students can review the browser-based ePAT for each assessment.
- A **sample test book and answer key book** for students taking the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake with a paper-based accommodation are available for student use on the [FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake page](#) of the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) website.
- **Sample test books and answer key books** for students taking the Statewide Science Assessment are available for student use on the FDOE [Statewide Science Assessment page](#).
- Districts may order paper-based large print or braille practice materials for students participating with these accommodations.

Achievement Levels and Scale Scores

Student performance on Florida’s statewide assessments is categorized into five achievement levels. Table 1 provides information regarding student performance at each achievement level for the Statewide Science Assessment and the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake; this information is provided on student reports so that students, parents and educators may interpret student results in a meaningful way.

Table 1. Achievement Levels

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Indicates an inadequate level of success with the challenging content of the NGSSS.	Indicates a below satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the NGSSS.	Indicates a satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the NGSSS.	Indicates an above satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the NGSSS.	Indicates mastery of the most challenging content of the NGSSS.

Achievement level scale score ranges for NGSSS assessments are provided in the tables below. The lowest score in Level 3 is the passing score for each assessment.

Table 2: Achievement Levels for the Statewide Science Assessment Scale Scores (140–260)

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	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 3: Achievement Levels for the FCAT 2.0 Reading Scale Scores (140–302)

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
10	188–227	228–244	245–255	256–270	271–302

Additional Information

- For more information regarding graduation requirements, please see [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#).
- For more information about student reports, reporting categories and achievement levels, please see [Understanding NGSSS Science and EOC Reports](#) for the Statewide Science Assessment and [Understanding NGSSS Retake Reports](#) for the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake.
- For information about the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA), which replaced the NGSSS assessments in Reading, Writing and Mathematics in 2014–15, please visit the [FSA Portal](#).

Please visit the [FDOE website](#) for more information about the statewide assessment program.