

### **Testing information:**

We have been receiving a great deal of additional and corrected information recently concerning FCAT testing and End of Course (EOC) tests for next year and would like to pass this information on to you.

The Florida Department of Education website has been updated to provide information regarding transitions in the statewide assessment program. The new pages include information about FCAT, FCAT 2.0, Florida End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments, and Computer-based Testing (CBT). The site also includes transition charts, answers to frequently asked questions, and testing schedules.

Please visit <http://fcat.fldoe.org/default.asp> to see these changes and remember this valuable resource throughout the year as you seek up-to-date assessment information.

### **FCAT and FCAT 2.0**

This is the first year that FCAT 2.0 assessments, based on the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS), will be administered to students. The following subject tests and grade levels will be assessed in the Spring 2011 FCAT 2.0 administration:

- FCAT 2.0 Reading – Grades 3-10
- FCAT 2.0 Mathematics – Grades 3-8

Grades 5, 8, and 11 FCAT Science will still be administered in Spring 2011. Grades 5 and 8 Science tests will transition to FCAT 2.0 assessments in Spring of 2012. Grade 11 FCAT Science will be eliminated in 2012; the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) high school science requirement will be met with the Biology 1 EOC Assessment.

FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics and FCAT Science tests no longer contain performance tasks. All tests contain multiple-choice items; gridded-response items are on the following tests:

- Grades 5-10/Retake Mathematics
- Grades 8 and 11 Science

The grades 4, 8, and 10 FCAT Writing tests have not changed; students will write an essay in response to a prompt. There will be one prompt per grade level; the modes (expository or persuasive) will not be announced in advance.

The FCAT Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics Retake tests have not changed.

Please see the attached Test Design Summary for details such as reporting categories, percentages of items in each category, and test lengths for FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics and the Algebra 1 EOC.

For more information on the NGSSS, visit [www.floridastandards.org/index.aspx](http://www.floridastandards.org/index.aspx).

## Scoring the FCAT 2.0

This year, FCAT and FCAT 2.0 scales will be linked using a statistical process similar to equating. Student results will be reported on the FCAT scale with FCAT achievement levels. Next year, a new FCAT 2.0 scale with new meaning will be developed based on data analysis in the fall, and the new FCAT 2.0 scale and achievement levels will be used for Spring 2012 score reporting.

## Computer-Based Testing (CBT)

In Spring 2011, the following assessments will be administered in CBT format only, with paper-based versions for students whose IEPs indicate this as an accommodation:

- Grade 10/Retake Mathematics
- Algebra 1 EOC Assessment
- Biology and Geometry EOC field tests (no paper accommodations)

These tests will be administered using TestNav 6.9, Pearson's proven CBT platform.

## Sample Test Materials

Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, Sample Test Materials will be produced and posted to the FDOE website only; no paper Sample Test Materials will be produced.

Sample tests for CBT administrations will be provided as practice tests in the TestNav 6.9 platform. You can find this at: <https://testnav.com/fltrngqc/epatLogin.jsp?testnavTestId=3002&testnavFormId=02ep>

## Algebra 1 EOC Assessment

As detailed in Senate Bill 4, the following students will participate in the Algebra 1 EOC Assessment:

- Middle and High School students completing Algebra 1, Algebra 1B, or an equivalent course for Algebra 1 credit during the 2010-11 school year.
- Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders who have previously completed Algebra 1 (or an equivalent course).

The Algebra 1 EOC will count as 30% of the student's final grade in the course.

In 2011-12, a passing score will be set and students will be required to achieve this passing score for graduation purposes and to earn the course credit.

Three forms of the test will be scored, and they will be post-equated to ensure that reported scores are accurate regardless of the form number. Students will receive a scale score, the range of which is still being discussed with advisory groups. Districts may determine how to use the scale score as 30% to calculate the student's final grade in the course. FDOE will provide one-third cut reports showing student performance across the state to help districts in making this determination.

For more information on the Algebra 1 EOC and Senate Bill 4 requirements, please visit <http://www.fldoe.org/BII/sb4i.asp>.