

FCAT 2.0 Overview

The FCAT 2.0 measures student achievement of the [Next Generation Sunshine State Standards](#) (NGSSS), which replaced the *Sunshine State Standards*, in reading, mathematics, science and writing. FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics were first administered in spring 2011, FCAT 2.0 Science was first administered in spring 2012 and FCAT 2.0 Writing was first administered in spring 2013. FCAT 2.0 Reading, Mathematics, Science and Writing are administered each spring, and the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake is offered in the spring and fall each year.

Students to be Tested in 2013-14

- Students enrolled in grades 3-10 will participate in FCAT 2.0 Reading
- Students enrolled in grades 3-8 will participate in FCAT 2.0 Mathematics
- Students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 will participate in FCAT 2.0 Science
- Students enrolled in grades 4, 8 and 10 will participate in FCAT 2.0 Writing
- Students who have not passed their required reading assessment in grade 10 for graduation purposes will participate in the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake

Note: In accordance with Section 1008.22(3)(b)1., Florida Statutes, “Middle grades students enrolled in Algebra I or geometry must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for those courses and are not required to take the corresponding grade-level FCAT.”

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6453/clarif1213release1314a.pdf>.

The Fall FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake is a computer-based test (CBT) and was administered **October 7-18, 2013**. Spring 2014 FCAT 2.0 testing will be conducted according to the following schedule:

ADMINISTRATION DATES

February 25 – 26

- FCAT 2.0 Writing (Grades 4, 8 and 10)

April 7 – 11 (CBT makeups may continue through April 15)

- FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake*

Start Date for Reading, Mathematics and Science: April 14

Districts must start on or after this date for each grade and subject and complete testing within eight school days and according to the end dates provided.

PICKUP/CBT END DATES

April 28 – 30**

- Grade 3 Reading and Mathematics

April 30 – May 2**

- Grades 4 and 5 Reading
- Grades 4, 7 and 8 Mathematics
- Grades 5 and 8 Science

May 2***

- Grades 6, 7 and 10 Reading*

May 7***

- Grades 5 and 6 Mathematics*
- Grades 8 and 9 Reading*

* Computer-based tests with paper-based accommodations

** Date ranges indicate paper-based test pickup dates. Each district has been assigned specific pickup dates based on district size.

*** Indicates the last day computer-based tests may be administered. The pickup date for all paper-based accommodated versions for grades 6, 7, and 10 Reading is May 2; the pickup date for all paper-based accommodated versions for grades 5 and 6 Mathematics and grades 8 and 9 Reading is May 8.

Computer-Based Testing

- The following FCAT 2.0 assessments are CBTs:
 - Grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading
 - Grades 5 and 6 FCAT 2.0 Mathematics
 - FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake
- Paper-based versions (regular print and braille) of CBTs 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 are available as a unique accommodation.
- CBT accommodated forms (large print, color contrast, zoom, screen reader) are available via TestHear software for students whose IEPs indicate these accommodations.
- Computer-based practice tests for each assessment, called ePATs, are available for teachers, students and parents/guardians at www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT for both TestNav and TestHear. Instructions for downloading the installer software and ePATs are also located on this website. Students are required to participate in a practice test at their schools prior to testing. Students who have previously completed a practice session for the subject test they will take are not required to participate in an ePAT again.
- Students taking a mathematics CBT are provided four-page, hard-copy work folders to use as scratch paper. Schools return used folders to district assessment coordinators for secure destruction.
- Students taking a reading CBT may be provided with worksheets to use as scratch paper. Schools may access the worksheet in PearsonAccess or in the test administration manual and make copies for students. Schools return used worksheets to district assessment coordinators for secure destruction.

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 located at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/pdf/designsummary.pdf>.

- FCAT 2.0 Reading
 - Grades 3-10 FCAT 2.0 Reading will be administered in two 70-minute sessions over two days with a break in the middle of each session.
 - 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 2.0 Mathematics
 - Grades 3-8 FCAT 2.0 Mathematics will be administered in two 70-minute sessions with a break in the middle of each session. Grades 3-5 sessions are administered over two days. Grades 6-8 sessions are administered on the same day.
 - FCAT 2.0 Mathematics consists of multiple-choice and gridded-response items in grades 4-8, and multiple-choice items only in grade 3.
 - Students in grades 3 and 4 will receive a ruler to use during Session 2 of FCAT 2.0 Mathematics.
 - Students in grades 7 and 8 will receive an approved hand-held four-function calculator to use during the FCAT 2.0 Mathematics sessions.
 - Students in grades 5-8 will receive a reference sheet to use during the FCAT 2.0 Mathematics sessions. The grade 5 and grade 6 reference sheets are provided in the TestNav platform for CBTs, and schools may make copies of the reference sheets provided in the test administration manual and distribute the copies if students prefer to use a hard copy.
 - Students taking the Grades 5 and 6 FCAT 2.0 Mathematics CBT will receive a work folder to use to work the problems.

- 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 Writing
 - Grades 4, 8 and 10 FCAT 2.0 Writing will be administered in one 60-minute session.
 - FCAT 2.0 Writing consists of a narrative or expository writing prompt at grade 4 and a persuasive or expository writing prompt at grades 8 and 10. Students are asked to write a response to the prompt on two lined pages in their writing folders.
 - Students receive a planning sheet for use in planning what they will write. Used planning sheets are considered secure materials and must be collected after testing.

Scoring and Reporting

- FCAT 2.0 Reading, Mathematics and Science results will be reported using the following three measures:
 - **Scale Scores**—The FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics score scales, which are also referred to as developmental score scales, range from 140 to 302 for FCAT 2.0 Reading across grades 3 through 10 and from 140 to 298 for FCAT 2.0 Mathematics across grades 3 through 8. Developmental scales can only be used for content areas that are assessed in consecutive grades and are further explained in the document posted at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcat2/pdf/pidss-final.pdf>. The FCAT 2.0 Science score scales range from 140 to 260 for both grades 5 and 8.
 - **Content Area Scores**—Content area scores are reported as the actual number of raw score 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 and subject. 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 Reading, Mathematics and Science is described by Achievement Levels that range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. Tables 1 and 2 provide the developmental scale score range for each FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics Achievement Level, and Table 3 provides the scale score range for each FCAT 2.0 Science Achievement Level.

**Table 1: Achievement Levels for the
FCAT 2.0 Reading Developmental Scale Scores (140 to 302)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
3	140-181	182-197	198-209	210-226	227-260
4	154-191	192-207	208-220	221-237	238-269
5	161-199	200-215	216-229	230-245	246-277
6	167-206	207-221	222-236	237-251	252-283
7	171-212	213-227	228-242	243-257	258-289
8	175-217	218-234	235-248	249-263	264-296
9	178-221	222-239	240-252	253-267	268-302
10	188-227	228-244	245-255	256-270	271-302

**Table 2: Achievement Levels for the
FCAT 2.0 Mathematics Developmental Scale Scores (140 to 298)**

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
3	140-182	183-197	198-213	214-228	229-260
4	155-196	197-209	210-223	224-239	240-271
5	163-204	205-219	220-233	234-246	247-279
6	170-212	213-226	227-239	240-252	253-284
7	179-219	220-233	234-247	248-260	261-292
8	187-228	229-240	241-255	256-267	268-298

**Table 3: Achievement Levels for the
FCAT 2.0 Science Scale Scores (140 to 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

- FCAT 2.0 Writing results are reported on a scale of 1.0 (lowest) to 6.0 (highest). The scoring guidelines, or rubrics, used to evaluate FCAT 2.0 Writing essays may be accessed at <http://fcap.fldoe.org/rubrcpag.asp>. The rubrics describe what is required for each possible score point for each grade level. The State Board of Education has established that the standard for the writing performance component of school grades is the percentage of students scoring 3.5 and above.
- When scores are reported for an assessment, schools will receive a shipment of hard copy reports to be distributed to students and parents. For more information about score reports, please see the document *Understanding FCAT 2.0 Reports* posted at <http://fcap.fldoe.org/fcat2/>.

2014 Student Progression and Passing Score Requirements for FCAT 2.0

- Students in grade 3 must achieve an FCAT 2.0 Reading scale score in Achievement Level 2 or higher, or show good cause, to be eligible for promotion to grade 4.
- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2010-11 school year and after must score in Achievement Level 3 or above on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading for graduation purposes. Graduation requirements for students who entered grade 9 prior to the 2010-11 school year are explained in *Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments*, posted at <http://fcap.fldoe.org/pdf/fcatpass.pdf>.
- Pursuant to Senate Bill 1076, which was passed during the 2013 legislative session, the State Board of Education established passing scores for each FCAT 2.0 assessment in rule. The passing score on FCAT 2.0 Reading, Mathematics and Science is the minimum score in Achievement Level 3, and the passing score for FCAT 2.0 Writing is a score point 3.5. These passing standards are consistent with the current proficiency standards for Florida's accountability system.