



Florida Department of Education Webinar

April 14, 2020



Today's Topics

- Student Progression
- Statewide Assessments
- Educator Preparation
- Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver
- Federal Programs
- School District Fund Balance
- Questions & Answers



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Student Progression

AP, IB and AICE Credit & Funding

- Credit will still be awarded based on the recommendations provided on the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-by-Examination List.
- Institutions should not see any change in how the scores for these exams and courses are reported on students' score reports.
- There is no change in the weighting and calculation of funding for AP, IB and AICE programs. The additional FTE associated with achieving the requisite score on an exam is reported in survey 5, which closes on October 31, 2020.

AP, IB and AICE Exams

- AP: [https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update?SFMC cid=EM288604-&rid=67096081](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update?SFMC_cid=EM288604-&rid=67096081)
- IB: <https://www.ibo.org/news/news-about-the-ib/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>
- IB: <https://flibs.org/Coronavirus-COVID19.cfm>
- AICE: <https://help.cambridgeinternational.org/hc/en-gb/articles/360006532458-Novel-coronavirus-Information-for-schools-about-the-COVID-19-coronavirus-outbreak>

Student Promotion/Retention

- Decisions should be made in consultation with parents, teachers and school leaders based on students' classroom performance and progress monitoring data.
- Parents should consult teachers and school leaders to determine student progress and mastery of curriculum.

Grade Forgiveness Section 1003.4282(5), F.S.

(5) GRADE FORGIVENESS POLICY.—Each district school board shall adopt policies designed to assist students in meeting graduation requirements including grade forgiveness policies. Forgiveness policies for required courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of “D” or “F” with a grade of “C” or higher earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. Forgiveness policies for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of “D” or “F” with a grade of “C” or higher earned subsequently in another course.

Summer Reading Camps

- It is recommended that summer reading camps remain scheduled at this time for students who are struggling readers as determined by methods other than the FSA ELA.
- Once more information is known about the opening of school campuses, this topic may be readdressed.

2020 Graduates

- The statewide assessment waiver applies to currently enrolled students who have met all other graduation requirements and are expected to graduate in the Spring of 2020.
- These students will receive a standard diploma.

2020 Graduating Senior MIS Code

- The following code and definition will be added to Survey 5: WCO.
- Definition: Any student who graduated and met all of the requirements to receive a standard diploma, and was exempted from required assessments due to cancellation of the 2019-2020 statewide assessments.
- A student with this code will count as a graduate in the high school graduation rate calculation, and this code will only apply to students that are scheduled to graduate this year (2019-2020).

Graduation Assessment Requirements for Non-Seniors

- Non-seniors who are currently enrolled in Algebra 1 may use one of the following to meet the graduation requirement:
 - passing the Algebra 1 EOC (offered four times each year) during a future administration,
 - earning a comparative score, or
 - passing the Geometry EOC during a future administration.
- Non-seniors who have yet to pass the Grade 10 FSA ELA must still meet the exit criteria by passing that assessment during a future administration or earning a concordant score.

Scholar Designation

- EOC assessment requirements are waived for seniors graduating in 2020.
- Non-seniors will need to meet the EOC assessment requirements to earn the designation for future years.

Required Instruction

- New reporting requirements in rule are:
 - 5 hours mental and emotional health education, grades 6-12.
 - Child trafficking prevention education, grades K-12.
 - Substance use and abuse prevention education, grades K-12.
 - Annual report due July 1 on the above, plus all of required instruction in s. 1003.42(2), F.S.
- This is a DOE priority; make every effort to provide required instruction and report by July 1.



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Statewide Assessments

Florida Standards Assessments – Waiver for Current Seniors

- It applies to all current seniors, even if they:
 - did not participate in the Spring 2020 Retake(s)
 - have been retained multiple times
- It applies to students who are scheduled to graduate in the Spring of 2020 and are coded by the district as non-seniors (e.g., 18-credit hour program).
- It does NOT apply to:
 - adult education students wishing to re-enroll in high school in 2019-2020
 - current seniors moving from 12th grade to adult education after 2019-2020
 - current seniors who repeat 12th grade for the 2020-2021 school year

Concordant or Comparative Scores

- Students who were scheduled to take the Spring 2020 Grade 10 ELA or Algebra 1 EOC assessment may use a concordant or comparative score as soon as it is earned.

Florida Standards Assessments – Retakes

- The ELA and Algebra 1 Retakes from February and March will be scored and reported on timelines similar to last year, provided there are no unexpected delays.
- The next opportunity for the Grade 10 ELA is the Fall 2020 Retake administration, which is currently scheduled for September 14–October 2, 2020.
- The next opportunity for the Algebra 1 EOC is the Summer 2020 EOC administration, which is currently scheduled for July 13–24, 2020.

Summer EOC Administration

- The summer administration is currently scheduled for July 13–24, 2020.
- The summer EOC window may be able to open early or be extended. Please contact the Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment closer to the time of the administration with specific requests.
- There will not be an option for students to take the Grade 10 ELA assessment in the summer.

Florida Standards Alternate Assessment

- Florida Standards Alternate Assessments will not be scored or reported for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Instructions are forthcoming regarding the return of secure materials.

ACCESS for ELLs Assessment

- Completed and returned ACCESS for ELLs assessments should be reported on timeframes as in past years, given there are no unexpected delays due to current circumstances.
- Any completed ACCESS for ELLs assessments that have not yet been returned will be scored upon their return, and will be reported on a timeline still to be determined.



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Educator Preparation

Student Teaching Interns

- Rule 6A-5.066, F.A.C., does not require a minimum number of hours or weeks for student teacher internships.
- Institutions have latitude to make necessary adjustments to ensure candidates achieve mastery of the program requirements.
- FDOE's primary focus is supporting institutions in their efforts to ensure that all teacher candidates master the necessary content and skills for program completion and professional preparedness.

Remote and virtual experiences to meet field experience requirements

- Institutions may utilize remote and virtual options for teacher candidates to meet field experience requirements.
- FDOE strongly encourages reaching out to peers within the postsecondary field for ideas and suggestions to best utilize remote and virtual experiences to fulfill program requirements.

Educator preparation program candidates scheduled to graduate during Spring/Summer 2020 and need to complete one or more FTCE

- Institutions may issue a degree without the state-approved program seal.
- This will allow graduates to apply for and obtain a temporary educator certificate and begin their teaching career.
- Once the graduate has passed all FTCEs, institutions may revise the transcript to reflect the state approved program seal allowing graduates to upgrade to a professional certificate.

Educator preparation program candidates scheduled to graduate during Spring/Summer 2020 and need to complete one or more FTCE

- In the coming weeks, FDOE will partner with institutions to identify those candidates who graduated without the state approved seal and who were granted a temporary certificate.
- FDOE will then ensure that they are not charged the upgrade fee for the professional certificate when they are awarded the state approved seal on their transcripts.

Admission to educator preparation programs for Summer/Fall 2020 - General Knowledge (GK) exam

- Programs may utilize the 10% waiver available through s. 1004.04, F.S.
- FDOE strongly recommends that institutions ensure that candidates are registered to take the GK exam and utilize the FTCE fee waiver currently in place.

Continued Approval Site Visit Schedule

- FDOE is adjusting the 2020-2021 site visit schedule.
- Institutions that had continued approval site visits scheduled for Spring of 2020 will be rescheduled for Fall 2020 or Spring 2021.

Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP)

- PDCP completers who receive a *highly effective rating* as determined by a performance evaluation are not required to take the professional education competency exam to be awarded a professional certificate.
- In absence of a 2019-2020 evaluation, an applicant may use his/her *highly effective* rating from a prior school year to satisfy this requirement.
- If an evaluation is not available, the applicant will need to pass the professional education competency exam.

Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP)

- Districts have latitude to make necessary adjustments to ensure candidates achieve mastery of the program requirements.
- We support the efforts and adjustments made by districts to ensure that all teacher candidates master the necessary skills and content for professional preparedness.



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Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

- Effective April 1, 2020, through July 31, 2020, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) candidates may register for FTCE exams free of charge.
- This offer applies to all examinations provided for in Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C.
- It does not apply to the FELE.
- Vouchers will remain valid for up to one year from the date of registration; however, test site availability through May 1, 2020, is currently limited due to state and national closures.

Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

- As testing sites reopen, Florida examinees will be scheduled for testing on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **As of April 1, 2020**, you may visit <http://www.fl.nesinc.com/> to register for free examinations through midnight, July 31, 2020.
- Please note that any FTCE registrations made **prior** to April 1, 2020, are subject to current fees; however, examinees who have paid these fees may cancel registrations up to 24 hours prior to their scheduled test time and receive a full refund.

Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

- Beginning April 1, 2020, and continuing through 11:59 PM Eastern on July 31, 2020, you may apply the voucher during the appointment scheduling stage of the registration process.
- On the **Enter Payment and Billing** screen, instead of entering your credit or debit card information, you will click **Add Voucher or Promo Code**, enter the voucher code **FTCESpring2020**, and click the **Apply** button.
- If you don't enter the voucher, the system will require payment.

Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

- You must complete the registration and scheduling process before 11:59 PM Eastern on July 31, 2020, but your actual test appointment can be up to one year from your original order date.
- First-attempt and retake fees will be waived between April 1, 2020, and 11:59 PM Eastern on July 31, 2020.
- There is no limit on the number of times you can use the voucher between April 1, 2020, and 11:59 PM Eastern on July 31, 2020.
- The fee waiver does not apply to the score verification service.

Florida Teacher Certification Examination Fee Waiver

- If you registered and are scheduled to test on or after March 17, 2020, but prior to the availability of the voucher beginning on April 1, 2020, you will automatically receive a refund.
- If your original payment was made by credit or debit card, a refund will be processed to your credit or debit card.
- You are not eligible for a refund if you registered and scheduled an examination appointment that occurred prior to March 17, 2020.
- Examinees who have registered and paid fees for examinations yet to take place and are not already canceled may cancel registrations up to 24 hours prior to their scheduled test time and receive a full refund.



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Federal Programs

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

- Information from the U.S. Department of Education can be found at

https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/sites/default/files/resource_document/file/FERPA%20and%20Coronavirus%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions_0.pdf.

Federal Accountability (ESSA)

- FDOE has received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education to suspend calculation of the Federal Index, and publication of State and local report cards.
- Any school that is identified for comprehensive or targeted support and improvement in the 2019-2020 school year will maintain that identification status in the 2020-2021 school year and continue to receive support and interventions consistent with the school's support and improvement plan in the 2020-2021 school year.

Implications of the ESEA Fiscal Waiver Provisions

- **Title I, Part A**
 - the 15% carryover limitation
- **Title IV, Part A**
 - needs assessment
 - spending limitations for activities for FY 2019 and FY 2018 carryover funds
 - spending limitations for the 15 percent limit to purchase technology infrastructure
- **Definition of Professional Development**
- **FY 2018 funds**
 - extend availability at the state level

Waiver of Carryover Limit for 2019-2020 Title I, Part A Funds

Current

- LEAs may only carry 15% of their Title I, Part A funds over from one year to the next.

With Waiver

- LEAs are not limited in how much Title I, Part A money they carry over from the 2019-2020 to 2020-2021.
- This is waived even for LEAs that already received a waiver within the last three years.

Waiver of Title IV, Part A Needs Assessment for 2019-2020

Current

- LEAs that receive \$30,000 or more, must conduct a comprehensive assessment of needs for improved access to well-rounded education, school conditions for student learning and access to personalized learning experiences.
- LEAs must then spend funds consistent with their needs.

With Waiver

- With waiver, LEAs will not have to amend the needs assessment conducted for the 2019-2020 funds.

Waiver of the Requirements to Spend Title IV, Part A Funds in Three Areas

Current

- LEAs that receive \$30,000 or more in Title IV, Part A funds must spend at least:
 - 20% of their allocation on activities to support a well-rounded education
 - 20% on activities to support safe and healthy students
 - Some funds to support the use of effective technology, no more than 15%

With Waiver

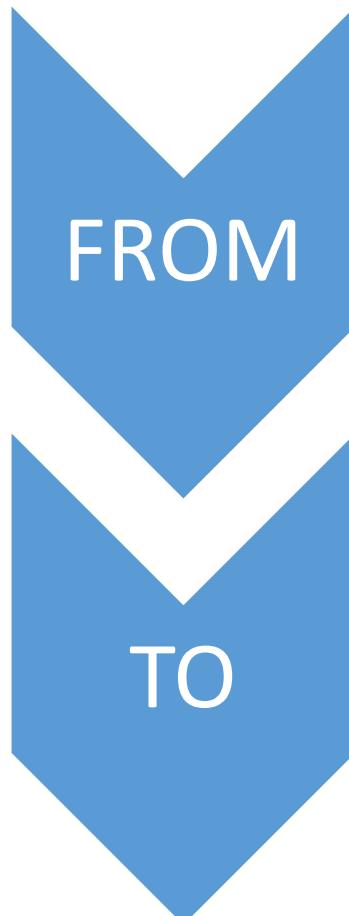
- LEAs may now spend remaining 2018-2019 funds (if any) and 2019-2020 funds on any allowable activity and do not have to spend it across all three areas.

Waiver for Professional Development Definition for the 2019-2020 School Year

With waiver of the definition of professional development, LEAs:

- Have flexible professional development options for distance learning such as:
 - Time-sensitive
 - One-time
 - Stand-alone

Transferability: LEA Options



- Title II, Part A

- Title IV, Part A

Requirement: LEA must consult with private schools to amend plans and budgets

Waiver of the Period of Availability for 2018-2019 State Funds

- Normally, any money awarded on or around July 1, 2018, must be spent by September 30, 2020, by the state.

With waiver, Florida now has an extra year to spend the funds until September 20, 2021.

The CARES Act Funding

- Governor's Fund
 - will benefit K-12 LEAs, Institutions of Higher Education and other impacted educational entities
 - est. \$173 million for Florida
- K-12 School Emergency Relief Fund
 - est. \$770 million for Florida
 - LEA subgrants will be allocated in the same proportion as Title I, Part A for the most recent fiscal year
 - LEAs will be required to provide equitable services for non-public schools
- More information forthcoming



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School District Fund Balance

School District Fund Balance

- The 3% fund balance requirement, found in s. 1011.051, F.S., is not waived.
- All of the requirements of that statute, including providing notice to FDOE and plans to avoid a financial emergency, remain in effect.



Questions & Answers

<http://www.fl DOE.org/em-response/index.shtml>

www.FLDOE.org

