

FCAT 2.0 Overview

The Florida Department of Education is transitioning from the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® (FCAT) to the FCAT 2.0, to align with new student academic content standards. The FCAT 2.0 will measure student achievement of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards* (NGSSS) in reading, mathematics, and science, in place of the *Sunshine State Standards*. As FCAT 2.0 assessments are phased in, they will replace existing FCAT assessments. The transition to FCAT 2.0 begins this year with the Reading and Mathematics assessments and will be complete when the FCAT 2.0 Science assessments are administered in 2012 (grades 5 and 8).

Students to be Tested in 2011

- 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
- Note: For a full schedule of all student assessments, see <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-5478/stwasa.pdf>

Test Administration Schedule

FCAT 2.0 testing will be conducted April 11-22, 2011, according to the following schedule:

- Monday, April 11
 - Grades 3-4 and 6-10 Reading (Session 1)
 - Grade 5 Mathematics (Session 1)
- Tuesday, April 12
 - Grades 3-4 and 6-10 Reading (Session 2)
 - Grade 5 Mathematics (Session 2)
- Wednesday, April 13
 - Grades 3 and 4 Mathematics (Session 1)
 - Grade 5 Reading (Session 1)
 - Grades 6-8 Mathematics (Sessions 1 and 2)
- Thursday, April 14
 - Grades 3 and 4 Mathematics (Session 2)
 - Grade 5 Reading (Session 2)

Test Administration Information

- All FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics assessments will be administered in two 70-minute sessions, with a break in the middle of each session.
- FCAT 2.0 Reading assessments consist of multiple-choice items only.
- FCAT 2.0 Mathematics assessments consist of multiple-choice items 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 a hand-held FCAT four-function calculator to use during the Mathematics sessions, and students in grades 5-8 will receive FCAT 2.0 reference sheets to use during the Mathematics sessions. 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://fcats.fldoe.org/pdf/designsummary.pdf>.

Scoring and Reporting

Scores for the 2011 FCAT 2.0 assessments will be reported using the following three measures.

- **FCAT Equivalent Scores**—Student results for the Spring 2011 FCAT 2.0 assessments will be reported on the existing FCAT scale as FCAT Equivalent Scores. The scores are being reported in this way to maintain consistent student expectations during the transition year. These scores will be used to determine student progress from grade to grade in the same way FCAT scores have been used in prior years, using the existing FCAT Achievement Level scoring tables. As noted in Tables 1 and 2, the FCAT equivalent scale ranges from 86 to 3008 across grades 3-10. Scores on the new FCAT 2.0 scale will be available beginning in 2012.

- **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. Reporting categories represent groups of similar student skills, or benchmarks, which are assessed within each grade and subject. The state mean for each reporting category also is provided to allow for comparisons to average performance statewide.
- **Achievement Levels**—The success a student has achieved with the NGSSS assessed on the FCAT 2.0 is described by Achievement Levels that range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest. To be considered on grade level, students must achieve Level 3 or higher.

Table 1: Achievement Levels for the FCAT Reading Equivalent Scores

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
3	86 - 1045	1046 - 1197	1198 - 1488	1489 - 1865	1866 - 2514
4	295 - 1314	1315 - 1455	1456 - 1689	1690 - 1964	1965 - 2638
5	474 - 1341	1342 - 1509	1510 - 1761	1762 - 2058	2059 - 2713
6	539 - 1449	1450 - 1621	1622 - 1859	1860 - 2125	2126 - 2758
7	671 - 1541	1542 - 1714	1715 - 1944	1945 - 2180	2181 - 2767
8	886 - 1695	1696 - 1881	1882 - 2072	2073 - 2281	2282 - 2790
9	772 - 1771	1772 - 1971	1972 - 2145	2146 - 2297	2298 - 2943
10	844 - 1851	1852 - 2067	2068 - 2218	2219 - 2310	2311 - 3008

Table 2: Achievement Levels for the FCAT Mathematics Equivalent Scores

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
3	375 - 1078	1079 - 1268	1269 - 1508	1509 - 1749	1750 - 2225
4	581 - 1276	1277 - 1443	1444 - 1657	1658 - 1862	1863 - 2330
5	569 - 1451	1452 - 1631	1632 - 1768	1769 - 1956	1957 - 2456
6	770 - 1553	1554 - 1691	1692 - 1859	1860 - 2018	2019 - 2492
7	958 - 1660	1661 - 1785	1786 - 1938	1939 - 2079	2080 - 2572
8	1025 - 1732	1733 - 1850	1851 - 1997	1998 - 2091	2092 - 2605

2011 Passing Score Requirements for FCAT 2.0

- Students in grade 3 must achieve an FCAT Equivalent Score at Level 2 or higher in Reading, or show good cause, to be eligible for promotion.
- Students in grade 10 who entered grade 9 in the 2009-10 school year must score 1926 (FCAT Equivalent Score) or above in Reading for graduation purposes.

New FCAT 2.0 Scale—2012

During the fall of 2011, Florida educators will recommend new achievement-level cut scores for the FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics assessments. These new cut scores will establish the minimum scores required by Achievement Level for each grade and subject. The State Board of Education will approve the final FCAT 2.0 Achievement Levels in January 2012 based on the recommendations of educators.