

2015–16
Next Generation Sunshine State Standards
Statewide Science Assessment/FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake
Fact Sheet

Statewide Science Assessment and FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake Overview

Florida students participate in the science and social studies assessments aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS). This fact sheet provides information regarding the Grades 5 and 8 Statewide Science Assessment and the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake. For information on Florida’s Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC) Retake, and Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History EOC assessments, see the [NGSSS EOC Fact Sheet](#).

Students to Be Tested in 2015-16

- Students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 will participate in the Statewide Science Assessment.
- Students receiving accelerated instruction in Science may participate in the Statewide Science Assessment.
- Students who need to pass the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading assessment for graduation purposes will participate in the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake.

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the [2015-16 Statewide Assessment Schedule](#).

- **Spring FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake:** March 28–April 8, 2016
 - Accommodated paper-based tests completed by April 1
- **Statewide Science Assessment:** April 25–May 6, 2016

Test Administration Information

- The FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake is delivered via a computer-based test (CBT), browser-based platform called TestNav8.
- Paper-based versions (regular print, large print, one-item-per-page, and braille) 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., text-to-speech) are available for students whose IEPs indicate these accommodations.
- Computer-based practice tests are available at www.FLAssessments.com/epats for student practice prior to the spring FCAT 2.0 Retake administration. Teachers, parents/guardians, and students can review the browser-based ePAT for each assessment.
- Paper-based regular-print practice tests are available for student use on the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [FCAT 2.0 page](#). Districts may order paper-based practice materials for students participating with large print or braille accommodations.
- The Statewide Science Assessment and FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake Assessment are structured as follows:
 - **Statewide Science Assessment:**
 - Grades 5 and 8 Science are administered in two 80-minute sessions with a stretch break in the middle of each session. Grade 5 Science is administered over two days; Grade 8 Science is administered in one day.
 - Students in grade 8 will receive a hand-held, four-function calculator and a Periodic Table of the Elements for use during the Science sessions.

- **FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake:**
 - 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.
 - FCAT 2.0 Reading consists of multiple-choice items only.
 - Students taking a CBT Reading assessment will receive a worksheet for taking notes.

Scoring and Reporting

- FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake and Statewide Science results will be reported using the following three measures:
 - **Scale Scores**—The FCAT 2.0 Reading score scales range from 140–302, and the Statewide Science score scales range from 140–260 for both grades 5 and 8.
 - **Content Area Scores**—Content area scores are reported as the actual number of 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 level and subject area. 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 these tests is described by Achievement Levels that range from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. Table 1 provides the scale score range for each Statewide Science Achievement Level, and Table 2 provides the scale score range for each FCAT 2.0 Reading Achievement Level.

Table 1: Achievement Levels for the Statewide Science Scale Scores (140–260)

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

Table 2: Achievement Levels for the FCAT 2.0 Reading Developmental Scale Scores (140–302)

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3 (Passing)	Level 4	Level 5
10	188-227	228-244	245-255	256-270	271-302

- When scores are reported for an assessment, schools will receive a shipment of hard-copy reports to be distributed to students and parents/guardians. For more information about score reports, please see the document [Understanding FCAT 2.0 Reports](#).

Additional Information

- For more information regarding graduation requirements, please see [Graduation Requirements for Florida’s Statewide Assessments](#).
- For information about the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA), which replaced the FCAT 2.0 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics in 2014–15, please visit the [FSA Portal](#).