

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT 2.0) Component in Reading, Mathematics, and Science

Grades/Students

Reading: All students in grades 3-10.
Mathematics: All students in grades 3-8.
Science: All students in grades 5 and 8.

Date

Administered in April of each school year.

Description

The FCAT 2.0 tests are standardized, criterion-referenced tests. The tests assess student achievement on selected benchmarks, which make up the state's standards in each academic subject area.

In the 2010-11 school year, the FCAT tests in Reading and Mathematics began the transition from the FCAT which addresses the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) to the FCAT 2.0 which addresses the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS). Additionally, in the 2011-12 school year, FCAT 2.0 Science was administered to students in grades 5 and 8 for the first time in the spring.

FCAT 2.0

The FCAT 2.0 measures student achievement of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. In 2011, FCAT 2.0 Reading in Grades 3-10 and Mathematics in Grades 3-8 were the first assessments to begin this transition.

The FCAT 2.0 Reading tests will only consist of multiple-choice items at all grade levels of the test. In the 2013-14 school year, the FCAT 2.0 Reading for grades 6-10 will be offered in computer-based format only, with paper-based accommodations for eligible students.

The FCAT 2.0 Mathematics tests contain multiple-choice items at all grade levels of the test, with gridded-response items included in grades 5-8. Students in grades 7- 8 may use calculators on the Mathematics test. In the 2013-14 school year, the FCAT 2.0 Mathematics for grades 5 and 6 will be offered in computer-based format only, with paper-based accommodations for eligible students

The FCAT 2.0 Science tests consist of multiple-choice items at all grade levels of the test and gridded-response items are included only in the grade 8 test. In addition, students in grade 8 may use calculators on the Science test.

Results

Student, school, district, and state results are reported in June. Results for reading and mathematics are reported using scale scores which can range from 140 to 302 in reading across Grades 3 through 10, and from 140 to 298 in mathematics across Grades 3 through 8. Results for science in grades 5 and 8 are reported using scale scores which can range from 140 to 260. In addition to the scale scores, results are also reported in terms of Achievement Levels, which can range from Level 1 (low) to Level 5 (high). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. State law requires that students in grade 3 score a Level 2 or higher in Reading in order to be promoted to grade 4.

Basis of Test

State mandate.

Website

<http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcat2/>

Local Contact

Student Assessment and Educational Testing
305-995-7520