

### FCAT 2.0 Overview

The Florida Department of Education is continuing the transition from the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® (FCAT) to the FCAT 2.0 to align with new student academic content standards. 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.

### Students to be Tested in 2012-13

- 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 assessment in grade 10 for graduation purposes will participate in the FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake

### Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6155/1113sasb.pdf>.

The Fall FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake is a computer-based test (CBT) and was administered October 8-19. Spring 2013 FCAT 2.0 testing will be conducted according to the following schedule:

#### **February 26 – 27**

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

#### **April 8 – 19**

- FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake (CBT administration with paper-based accommodations)

#### **April 15 – 19**

- FCAT 2.0 Reading (Grades 3, 4, 5, 7\*, 8, and 10\*)
- FCAT 2.0 Mathematics (Grades 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8)
- FCAT 2.0 Science (Grades 5 and 8)

#### **Monday, April 15**

- Grades 3-5 and 10\* Reading (Session 1)
- Grades 6, 7, and 8 Mathematics (Sessions 1 and 2)

#### **Tuesday, April 16**

- Grades 7\* and 8 Reading (Session 1)
- Grades 3-5 and 10\* Reading (Session 2)

#### **Wednesday, April 17**

- Grades 7\* and 8 Reading (Session 2)
- Grades 3 and 4 Mathematics (Session 1)
- Grade 5 Science (Session 1)

#### **Thursday, April 18**

- Grades 3 and 4 Mathematics (Session 2)
- Grade 5 Science (Session 2)
- Grade 8 Science (Sessions 1 and 2)

#### **April 22 – 26**

- FCAT 2.0 Reading (Grades 6\* and 9\*)
- FCAT 2.0 Mathematics (Grade 5\*)

#### **Monday, April 22**

- Grade 5\* Mathematics (Session 1)
- Grades 6\* and 9\* Reading (Session 1)

#### **Tuesday, April 23**

- Grade 5\* Mathematics (Session 2)
- Grades 6\* and 9\* Reading (Session 2)

**\* Computer-based tests with paper-based accommodations**

## Computer-Based Testing

- The following FCAT 2.0 assessments are computer-based tests (CBT):
  - Grades 6, 7, 9, and 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading
  - Grade 5 FCAT 2.0 Mathematics
  - FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake
- Each test must be administered over two days (one session per day). Schools may schedule CBT sessions during the entire testing window for each subject.
- Paper-based versions (regular print and braille) will be 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 will be 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](http://www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT) for both TestNav and TestHear. Instructions for downloading the installer software and ePATs are also located on this site. Students are required to participate in a practice test at their schools prior to testing. Students who are retaking an assessment and have previously completed a practice session for that assessment are not required to participate in an ePAT again.
- Students taking a mathematics CBT will be provided four-page, hard-copy work folders to use as scratch paper. Used folders are secure materials that must be collected after testing and stored or securely destroyed according to district assessment coordinators' instructions.
- 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. Used worksheets are secure materials that must be collected after testing and stored or securely destroyed according to district assessment coordinators' instructions.

## 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 CBT Reading 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 reference sheet is provided in the TestNav platform for CBT tests, and schools may make copies of the reference sheet provided in the Spring 2013 CBT Reading, Mathematics, and Science test administration manual and distribute the copies if students prefer to use a hard copy.
- Students taking the Grade 5 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 established in 2012, 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. 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 the FCAT 2.0 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. The FCAT 2.0 Science Achievement Levels were established by the State Board of Education on December 12, 2012, and will be reported for the first time in spring 2013.

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

Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	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	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	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 will be reported on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 6 (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. Although there is no individual “passing” score for FCAT 2.0 Writing, 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. Additional information regarding scoring for FCAT 2.0 Writing is provided in the frequently asked questions posted at <http://fcap.fldoe.org/fcat2/pdf/13fcat2writing.pdf>.

### 2013 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.
- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2009-10 school year must earn a 241, or higher, on Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading for graduation purposes (this score is equivalent to an FCAT Equivalent Developmental Scale Score of 1926). Students who entered grade 9 in the 2010-11 school year and beyond must score in Achievement Level 3 or above on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading for graduation purposes.