

North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests Reading, Mathematics, and Science Assessment Brief



Purpose of the Test

The North Carolina End-of-Grade (EOG) tests are standards-based achievement tests in the areas of reading and mathematics at grades 3–8 and science at grades 5 and 8. The reading and mathematics tests are aligned to the North Carolina *Standard Course of Study* (NCSCS), and the science tests are aligned to the North Carolina *Essential Standards*.

Eligible Students

Reading and mathematics. All students in membership at grades 3–8 (according to PowerSchool), including students who have been retained at grades 3–8, are expected to participate with or without accommodations in the standard administration of the EOG tests in reading and mathematics.

Science. All students in membership at grades 5 and 8 (according to PowerSchool), including students who have been retained at grades 5 and 8, are expected to participate with or without accommodations in the standard administration of the EOG science tests.

The only exceptions are as follows:

- students with disabilities who, according to their IEP documentation, participate in the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment in accordance with state policies; and
- in rare cases, students deemed medically fragile because of a significant medical emergency or condition and unable to participate in a specific test administration who are granted a medical exception. All medical exceptions must be approved by the Division of Accountability Services.

Testing Format

All EOG tests are available in both online and paper/pencil formats. However, online EOG test administrations are required for the following:

- EOG Science (Grades 5 and 8)
- EOG Mathematics (Grade 5 and 8)

The only exceptions to this online testing requirement are for

- public school units granted an approved technology hardship request and
- individual students with disabilities who have documented accommodations that dictate a paper/pencil test format is necessary for accessibility.

Testing Window

The EOG tests must be administered during the last ten days of the school year. For school systems that were required to adjust their school schedules because of adverse weather conditions or other emergencies, the testing schedule should be adjusted to fall within the final ten days of the adjusted school year.

Administration Time and Number of Test Questions

The estimated test administration time is the time that the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) estimates it will take for nearly all students to complete the test. The NCDPI requires all students participating in the EOG tests be allowed ample opportunity to complete the tests. As long as students are engaged and working, and the maximum time allowed (i.e., three hours) has not been reached, they must be given time to complete the tests. The test administrator must consult with the school test coordinator for the procedures to follow in providing additional time to students who need time beyond that scheduled to complete the tests. Refer to the following chart for the estimated test administration times and number of questions.

Test Information		Number of Questions	Time (minutes)
Reading	Grades 3–5	48	120 (180 minutes maximum)
	Grades 6–8	52	
	2 Three-Minute Breaks		6
	General Instructions		12
	Total		138
Mathematics	Grades 3 and 4	46	120 (180 minutes maximum)
	Grade 5	48	
	Grades 6–8	53	
	2 Three-Minute Breaks		6
	General Instructions		12
	Total		138
Science	Grades 5 and 8	65	120 (180 minutes maximum)
	2 Three-Minute Breaks		6
	General Instructions		12
	Total		138

Reading EOG Tests

- Students read authentic literary and informational selections based on the NCSCS and then answer questions related to the selections.
- Knowledge of vocabulary is assessed indirectly through application and understanding of terms within the context of the selection and questions.

Mathematics EOG Tests

- The mathematics tests at grades 3 and 4 include both a calculator inactive section (calculators are not permitted) and a calculator active section (calculators are permitted). The tests consist of four-response-option multiple-choice questions.
- The mathematics tests at grades 5–8 include both a calculator inactive section (calculators are not permitted) and a calculator active section (calculators are permitted). Both sections have multiple-choice and gridded response or numeric entry questions.
 - The gridded response questions appear on the paper format of the test. These questions require students to write and fill in numerical answers on their answer sheets rather than to select answers from several choices. For online testing, students type a numerical answer into a text box.

Science EOG Tests

- The *Essential Standards* for Science at grades 5 and 8 include content from each of the three branches of science: Life, Earth, and Physical. The unifying concepts for Grades 5 and 8 include:
 - Forces and Motion
 - Matter: Properties and Change
 - Energy: Conservation and Transfer
 - Earth Systems, Structures, and Processes
 - Earth History
 - Structures and Functions of Living Organisms
 - Ecosystems
 - Evolution and Genetics; and Molecular Biology

This publication and the information contained within must not be used for personal or financial gain. North Carolina school system/school officials, teachers, parents, and students may download and duplicate this publication for instructional and educational purposes only. Others may not duplicate this publication without prior written permission from the NCDPI Division of Accountability Services/North Carolina Testing Program.