

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). Beginning in 2011-12 school year, students in grade 10 will no longer take the FCAT Mathematics assessment; and students in grade 11 will no longer participate in FCAT Science assessments. It should be noted that FCAT 2.0 Science will be administered to students in grades 5 and 8 for the first time in the spring of 2012.

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. The FCAT 2.0 Reading for grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 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. 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. Students in grades 7 and 8 use calculators on the Mathematics test.

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 use calculators on the Science test.

Results

Student, school, district, and state results are reported in June. Scale scores for Reading, Mathematics, and Science are reported. Achievement levels that are based on students' scale scores and reflect levels of student proficiency are also reported. Achievement levels are designated as Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). 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

Department of Research and Accountability
352-726-1931, ext. 2235