



# State Assessment Program Overview

Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K-12 Education

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# Assessment and Evaluation Budget is Organized into Two Main Areas

- K-12 Assessments
  - Statewide Standardized Assessments (includes Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts and Mathematics, Statewide End-of-Course (EOC) assessments, and the Statewide Science assessment)
  - Other K-12 (includes English language proficiency assessment for English Language Learners (ELLs), alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities, PSAT and PreACT)
- Postsecondary Assessments
  - Educator and Educator Leader certification exams
- **The focus of today's presentation will be on K-12 Assessments**

## Purpose and Value of Assessment (Section 1008.22(1), Florida Statutes)

- The statewide standardized assessment program is designed to:
  - Assess the achievement level and annual learning gains of each student in English Language Arts and Mathematics based on Florida Standards and the achievement level in all other subjects assessed
  - Identify the educational strengths and needs of students and the readiness of students to be promoted to the next grade level or to graduate from high school
  - Provide data for making decisions regarding school accountability, recognition, and improvement of operations and management
  - Assess how well educational goals and curricular standards are met at the school, district, state, national, and international levels
  - Provide information to aid in the evaluation and development of educational programs and policies

# Statewide Standardized Assessments Required for All Students

- State law requires participation in the statewide standardized assessment program (Section 1008.22(3), Florida Statutes)
- The statewide standardized assessment program must be aligned to the state content standards and administered in the following subjects and grade levels:
  - English Language Arts (ELA) Grades 3-10
  - Mathematics Grades 3-8
  - Science Grades 5 and 8
  - End-of-Course (EOC) assessments in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Biology 1, U.S. History, and Civics
- State law also provides for the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA) to be administered to students with disabilities for whom the individual education plan (IEP) team has determined it is the most appropriate
- The statewide standardized assessments also satisfy federal law requiring assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science

## K-12 Assessments

- Currently, the department implements the following statutorily required assessments:

Assessment	Statutory Requirement
Statewide standardized assessments in ELA, math, and EOCs in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2	s. 1008.22, F.S. and federal requirement
Statewide standardized assessments in science, EOCs in Biology 1, U.S. History, Civics, and retakes for students needing to pass the former required assessments for graduation	s. 1008.22, F.S. and federal requirement (for science)
English language proficiency assessment for English Language Learners (ELLs)	s. 1003.56, F.S. and federal requirement
Alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities	s. 1008.22, F.S. and federal requirement
Pre- and post-assessment for Florida Juvenile Justice Education programs	s. 1003.52, F.S.
Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS)	s. 1002.69, F.S.
Preliminary SAT (PSAT) and PreACT for all 10 <sup>th</sup> graders	s. 1007.35, F.S.

## K-12 Assessments

- Currently, the department also has contracts/grants to support the implementation of statutorily required assessments:
  - **Tallahassee Community College** – Test Development Center (TDC) to oversee contractor test development services and ensure the quality of test content and test form production; TDC responsible for the recruitment and involvement of Florida educators and stakeholders from across the state in test development (e.g., bias/sensitivity review, content and standards alignment)
  - **Florida State University** – Psychometric interns to assist in the psychometric and statistical work related to the assessments
  - **School Board of Hillsborough County** – Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) provides expert review of all braille materials produced for the statewide standardized assessments
  - **Buros Center for Testing** – Provides for an annual third-party program audit of Florida’s statewide standardized assessment program as well as alignment and concordant studies
  - In addition, internal department funding is used to support activities such as scoring and reporting data verification, district advisory committees, and student recognition

# State Required Uses of the Statewide Standardized Assessment Results

## Students

- A student must earn a Level 2 or above (out of 5 levels) on the Grade 3 ELA assessment to be promoted to Grade 4
  - Six good cause exemptions are provided by law (s. 1008.25, F.S.)
- A student must pass the Grade 10 ELA assessment to graduate from high school with a standard diploma (Level 3 or higher)
  - Students may satisfy this requirement by earning a concordant score on the SAT or ACT
- A student must pass the Algebra 1 EOC to graduate from high school with a standard diploma (Level 3 or higher)
  - Students may satisfy this requirement by earning a comparative score on PERT
- A student enrolled in a course with a statewide standardized EOC must take the assessment, and the results must count as 30% of the student's course grade

## Computer-Based Testing

- Florida began transitioning to computer-based testing (CBT) in 2010-11, with five assessments delivered on computer that year
- In 2016-17, the following assessments will be computer-based assessments:
  - Grades 8 – 10 English Language Arts - Writing
  - Grades 4 – 10 English Language Arts - Reading
  - Grades 3 – 8 Mathematics
  - Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Biology 1, U.S. History, and Civics EOCs (as required by state law (s. 1008.22(3)(b)5, F.S.))
- Tests that are paper-based in 2016-17
  - Grades 4 – 7 ELA Writing
  - Grade 3 ELA Reading (will transition to computer in 2017-18, as required by state law (s. 1008.22(3)(d)1, F.S.))
  - Grades 5 and 8 Statewide Science Assessment
  - Paper-based accommodations for CBT for students with this accommodation listed on Section 504 Plans or IEPs



# Spring 2017 Testing Window

- **February 27–March 3, 2017**
  - Grades 4–7 FSA ELA Writing (paper)
- **February 27–March 10, 2017**
  - Grades 8–10 & Retake FSA ELA Writing (computer)
- **March 27–April 7, 2017**
  - Grade 3 FSA ELA Reading (paper)
  - FSA ELA Reading and Algebra 1 Retakes (computer)
- **April 10–May 12, 2017**
  - Grades 4–10 FSA ELA Reading & Grades 3–8 FSA Mathematics (computer)
- **April 17–May 12, 2017**
  - Algebra 1 (for non-retakers), Geometry, Algebra 2 (computer)

## Spring 2017 Testing Window

- **May 1–5, 2017**
  - Statewide Science Assessment in Grades 5 and 8 (paper)
- **April 17–May 19, 2017**
  - Biology 1, Civics, U.S. History EOCs (computer)
- **Note:** To provide students retake opportunities, EOCs are offered 4 times a year and the Grade 10 FSA ELA is offered twice a year

## Testing Time vs. Testing Windows

- To provide school districts maximum flexibility to complete statutorily required statewide, standardized assessments, spans of dates (testing windows) are provided for districts to locally manage and determine when to assess their students
- The testing windows are not a reflection of the total amount of time a student sits for an assessment (testing time)

## Testing Time vs. Testing Windows

- For example, the Spring 2017 testing window for the Grades 4 FSA ELA Reading and Grades 4 FSA Mathematics is a total of 5 weeks (25 school days)
- However, the Grade 4 FSA ELA Reading is administered over 2 days (80 minutes each day) and the Grade 4 FSA Mathematics is administered over 2 days (80 minutes each day)
- Therefore, though the entire testing window is 25 days, a fourth grade student will sit for a total of 5 hours and 20 minutes over 4 days (80 minutes per day) during this five week window to complete his/her required assessments in ELA and mathematics

# Assessment and Evaluation Budget to Support Statutory Requirements

- Total 2017-2018 agency request: \$109,202,019
  - \$69,200,742 for K-12 Statewide Standardized Assessments (including FSA)
  - \$26,217,377 for Other K-12 Assessments
  - \$13,783,900 for Postsecondary and Certification Assessments
- This represents less than 1% (0.604%) of the overall education budget



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