

# Orange County Public Schools



## Parent Night: Spring 2017 Assessments

WINNER

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for urban education



State Assessments for students in grades 6-12

Research, Accountability and Grants  
Orange County Public Schools

# What are the Florida Standards and Florida Standards Assessment?

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The Florida Standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics were approved by the Florida State Board of Education (SBOE) in February 2014 and were fully implemented in grades K–12 in the 2014–2015 school year.

All Florida schools teach the Florida Standards. The Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) provide parents and families, teachers, policy makers, and the general public with information regarding how well students are learning the Florida Standards.



## How do the Florida Standards benefit my student?

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The Florida Standards, adopted by the State Board of Education in February 2014 after unprecedented public input and review, prepare Florida students for success in college, career, and life by emphasizing analytical thinking.

The Florida Standards Assessments provide a more authentic assessment of the Florida Standards, because they include more than multiple-choice questions. Students are asked to create graphs, interact with test content, and write and respond in different ways than required on traditional tests. Question types assess students' higher-order thinking skills in keeping with the higher expectations of the Florida Standards.

Students, educators, and parents and families are able to preview samples of question types by accessing practice tests that are available in the FSA Portal.

# What do all the acronyms mean?

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**ACCESS for ELLs**: Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners

**CBT**: Computer-based Test

**CFE**: Common Final Exams

**EOC**: End of Course

**ELL**: English Language Learner

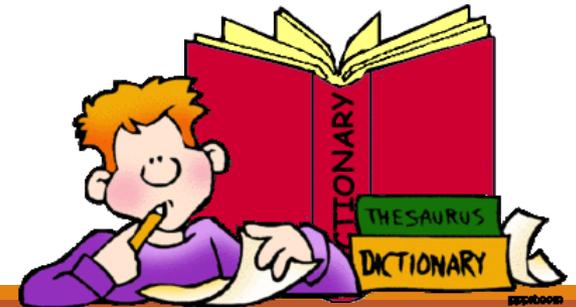
**ESE**: Exceptional Student Education

**FSA**: Florida Standards Assessment

**FSAA**: Florida Standards Alternate Assessment

**NGSSS**: Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

**PBT**: Paper-based Test



# What state assessments are administered?

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Grade(s)	Assessments
6 – 10	FSA ELA – Writing/Reading
6 – 8	FSA Mathematics
8	Statewide Science
Based on course enrollment	FSA End of Course: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry
Based on course enrollment	NGSSS End of Course: Biology, Civics, US History
Based on ELL Classification	ACCESS for ELLs
Based on ESE Classification	FSAA

## How long are the tests?

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ACCESS for ELLs – Untimed

FSAA – Untimed

FSA Writing – one 120 minute session

FSA Reading – two sessions at 80 minutes each

FSA Math – three sessions at 60 minutes each

FSA EOC – two sessions at 90 minutes each

NGSSS EOC – one 160 minute session

Statewide Science – 2 sessions at 60 minutes each



## Can my student practice taking the test?

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Prior to administering each computer-based assessment, test administrators conduct a practice test that contains sample test items to prepare students for the item types, tools, and online interface they will encounter during testing. [Practice tests](#) are available in the FSA Portal for students to practice on their own. Parents and students may access the FSA Practice Tests using the link below.

<http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>



# Are all assessments administered on the computer?

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## **The following assessments are paper-based:**

- ACCESS for ELLs (Grades 6-12)
- FSAA (Grades 6-12)
- Statewide Science (Grade 8 )
- FSA Writing Component (Grades 6 & 7)

## **The following assessments are computer-based:**

- FSA English Reading Component (Grades 6-10 and Retakes)
- FSA Math (Grades 6-8)
- FSA EOC: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry
- NGSSS EOC: Civics, Biology, US History



# How can I support my student?

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Parents and families can promote student success by staying involved in their child's education, offering positive support and feedback, and encouraging their child to relax and do his or her very best.

By staying connected with their child's school and teachers and taking advantage of online resources, such as school websites and portals, parents and families can stay informed and be equipped to meet the needs of their child at home.

Parents also may visit the FSA Portal Student and Family page using this link:

<http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/>

# How can I support my student?

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Make sure your student gets plenty of sleep the night before the exam.



Research shows that students who are hungry do not do as well and are less focused than students who have a good breakfast the morning of the test.



## Can I ask my student about the test after he or she has finished?

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We encourage parents and families to ask how their child's day went and continue to promote student success by offering positive support and feedback. Because the content of statewide assessments is secure, students are asked not to talk about the test questions, passages, or their responses. Students are asked to sign a Testing Rules Acknowledgement, which states: "Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not reveal details about the writing prompt or passages to anyone. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram." **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents and families.**

# How will I know how my student performed on the assessment?

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Scores for the 2016–2017 assessments will be released in Summer 2017. Parents/families will receive a paper score report after scores are distributed to the districts. Districts will report scores to schools and students and will notify parents/families. Paper score reports will include an overall score for each subject of the test, an achievement level, a percentile rank for comparison to other similar students in Florida, and more specific content-area scores on the material assessed within each subject.

Each year, the FDOE provides a document to help parents and students understand the individual score reports and how to use the information it provides to determine your child's strengths and weaknesses. The current *Understanding Florida Standards Assessments Reports* can be found here: [http://fsassessments.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Understanding-FSA-Reports\\_2016\\_FINAL\\_508-Version.pdf](http://fsassessments.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Understanding-FSA-Reports_2016_FINAL_508-Version.pdf)

# Questions?

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If you have questions after this presentation, please contact your principal or school test coordinator.