

North Carolina Testing Program Required Testing 2015–16

The required operational tests administered statewide in the North Carolina Testing Program are located in the following chart. **Blue font** denotes the alternate assessments that are available to eligible students who have appropriate documentation. In addition, field tests/special studies may be administered annually in selected subjects and grades, and some North Carolina students participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) at grades 4, 8, and 12, the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) at age 15, and the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) at grade 4. The North Carolina Final Exams (NCFE) are also administered as part of the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process and Standard Eight of the School Executive Evaluation Process.

Grade Level	English Language Arts/Reading	Mathematics	Science	Other	Limited English Proficient
3	Beginning-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading Test ¹				W-APT ^{TM3} ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
3	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴			
4	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴ NAEP ⁵	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴ NAEP ⁵	NAEP ⁵	PIRLS ⁶	W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
5	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴		W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
6	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴			W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
7	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴			W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
8	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴ NAEP ⁵	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴ NAEP ⁵	EOG ² <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴ NAEP ⁵	ACT [®] Explore ⁷ NAEP ⁵ (writing)	W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
9		Math I ⁸			W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
10	English II ⁸ <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	<i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	Biology ⁸ <i>NCEXTENDI</i> ⁴	ACT Plan ⁹ PISA ⁶ College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment Grade 10 ⁴	W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
11				The ACT ¹⁰ College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment Grade 11 ⁴ <i>NCEXTENDI Grade 11</i> ⁴	W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}
12	NAEP ⁵	NAEP ⁵	NAEP ⁵	ACT WorkKeys ¹¹ NAEP ⁵ (writing)	W-APT ³ ACCESS for ELLs [®] 2.0 ³ Alternate ACCESS ^{3,4}

¹ The Beginning-of-Grade 3 (BOG3) English Language Arts Reading Test is linked to the Read to Achieve legislation (G.S. §115C-83.6). Additionally, the BOG3 serves as a teacher-growth tool used as part of the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process and Standard Eight of the School Executive Evaluation Process (GCS-A-016, TCP-C-004).

² The end-of-grade (EOG) tests are administered per state and federal requirements: No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001; Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver; GCS-A-016, TCP-C-004—Teacher Evaluation Process and Standard Eight of the School Executive Evaluation Process; GCS-C-020—Accountability Model including Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs); GCS-C-021—Accountability Model Annual Performance Standards; GCS-C-020—Components of the Accountability Model; G.S. §115C-174.11; Read to Achieve legislation—G.S. § 115 C-83.6.

³ Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs[®] 2.0) is North Carolina’s required assessment that complies with Title III of the NCLB legislation. The state instrument for identification of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students is the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT). The federal (Title III, of NCLB) and state (GCS-A-011) policies require all K–12 students identified as language minority students through the Home Language Survey process upon initial enrollment be assessed for limited English language proficiency.

⁴ Policy in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and NCLB require all eligible students who do not participate in the standard administration with or without accommodations to be administered an appropriate alternate assessment with or without accommodations. Additionally, the College and Career Readiness Alternates (grades 10 and 11) are State Board of Education (SBE) requirements (G.S. §115C-174.11 (c)(4)).

⁵ Federal law specifies that NAEP is voluntary for every student, school, school district, and state. However, federal law also requires all states that receive Title I funds to participate in NAEP reading and mathematics assessments at fourth and eighth grades. Similarly, school districts that receive Title I funds and are selected for the NAEP sample are also required to participate in NAEP reading and mathematics assessments at fourth and eighth grades. All other NAEP assessments are voluntary.

⁶ The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) and the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) are sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), part of the U.S. Department of Education.

⁷ The ACT Explore (grade 8) is a State Board of Education (SBE) requirement (G.S. §115C-174.11(c)(4)).

⁸ End-of-course (EOC) tests are administered per state and federal requirements: No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001; Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver; GCS-A-016, TCP-C-004—Teacher Evaluation Process and Standard Eight of the School Executive Evaluation Process; GCS-C-020—Accountability Model including Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs); GCS-C-021—Accountability Model Annual Performance Standards; GCS-C-020—Components of the Accountability Model; G.S. §115C-174.11.

⁹ The ACT Plan (grade 10) is an SBE requirement (G.S. §115C-174.11(c)(4)).

¹⁰ The ACT (grade 11) is an SBE requirement (G.S. §115C-174.11). SBE policies include GCS-C-020, Components of the Accountability Model and GCS-C-021, Accountability Model Annual Performance Standards.

¹¹ ACT WorkKeys is an SBE requirement (G.S. §115C-174.25). SBE policies include GCS-C-020, Components of the Accountability Model and GCS-C-021, Accountability Model Annual Performance Standards.