

## North Carolina Testing Program Operational Calendar

### 2015–16 School Year–Summer

Assessment	Testing Window
WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™) <sup>1</sup>	Initial assessment required within 30 calendar days of enrollment at the beginning of the school year or 14 calendar days if the student enrolls after the beginning of the school year.
READY End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments—Biology, English II, and Math I <sup>2</sup>	Final 5 instructional days of the summer school course
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments <sup>3</sup>	July 20–31, 2015
Read to Achieve Test—Grade 3 <sup>4</sup>	Locally determined date at the conclusion of reading camp

#### Summer School Administrations of End-of-Grade and End-of-Course Assessments for 2014-15 Accountability

Districts and charter schools having a bona fide summer school program must complete summer school testing and upload all test data to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) no later than **June 30, 2015; by 5:00 p.m.** Scores from summer school administrations occurring later than June 30, 2015, will be used in 2015–16 accountability results. Results from end-of-course (EOC) English II administered during a summer program will be delayed and will be included in 2015–16 accountability. Summer school administration scores will be counted only for proficiency, not growth.

<sup>1</sup> Federal and state policies require all K–12 students identified as language minority students through the Home Language Survey (HLS) process upon initial enrollment be assessed for limited English language proficiency. The state instrument for identification of limited English proficient (LEP) students is the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™). The identification and the subsequent placement of LEP students in English as a Second Language (ESL) services are guided at the state level by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Curriculum and Instruction Division. All students identified as LEP must be administered the ACCESS for ELLs® or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs® during the annual English language proficiency testing window.

<sup>2</sup> The EOC assessments are designed for an online administration, but paper-and-pencil versions are available for order. The summer EOC online testing program is open from June 22, 2015 through August 21, 2015. Scores from summer school administrations occurring later than June 30, 2015, will be used in 2015-16 accountability.

<sup>3</sup> Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) is the process by which local education agencies (LEAs)/charter schools shall, based upon a body-of-evidence, award a student credit in a particular course without requiring the student to complete classroom instruction for a certain amount of seat time.

<sup>4</sup> Students who have not demonstrated reading proficiency appropriate for a third grader or have not qualified for a good cause exemption at the conclusion of reading camp shall be provided an opportunity to take the Read to Achieve Test or local alternative assessment on a locally determined day.

## 2015–16 School Year–Fall

Assessment	Testing Window
WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™) <sup>1</sup>	Initial assessment required within 30 calendar days of enrollment at the beginning of the school year or 14 calendar days if the student enrolls after the beginning of the school year.
Beginning-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading Test <sup>2</sup>	Between the 11 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> day of the school year
ACT® Aspire Periodic Assessments at Grade 8 <sup>3</sup>	September 1, 2015–June 30, 2016
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments <sup>4</sup>	September 1–15, 2015
ACT® Plan	October 1–31, 2015
College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment at Grade 10	October 1–31, 2015
ACT® WorkKeys—Online Administrations	November 16, 2015–February 19, 2016
ACT® WorkKeys—Paper-and-Pencil Accommodated Administrations (Early Graduates and Early Colleges Only)	December 7–11, 2015
READY End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments—Biology, English II, and Math I <sup>5</sup>	Final 5 instructional days of the semester (4x4/semester courses)
NC Final Exams	Final 5 instructional days of the semester (4x4/semester courses) <sup>6</sup>
Read to Achieve Test—Grade 3 <sup>7</sup>	Locally determined date by November 1, 2015

<sup>1</sup> Federal and state policies require all K–12 students identified as language minority students through the Home Language Survey (HLS) process upon initial enrollment be assessed for limited English language proficiency. The state instrument for identification of limited English proficient (LEP) students is the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™). The identification and the subsequent placement of LEP students in English as a Second Language (ESL) services are guided at the state level by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Curriculum and Instruction Division. All students identified as LEP must be administered the ACCESS for ELLs® or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs® during the annual English language proficiency testing window.

<sup>2</sup>The Beginning-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading Test is part of the North Carolina Read to Achieve program.

<sup>3</sup>The ACT® Aspire Periodics Assessments can be administered on locally determined dates within the designated testing window.

<sup>4</sup>Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) is the process by which local education agencies (LEAs)/charters shall, based on a body-of-evidence, award a student credit in a particular course without requiring the student to complete classroom instruction for a certain amount of seat time.

<sup>5</sup>The EOC assessments are designed for an online administration, but paper-and-pencil versions are available for order. NC Education is available for fall EOC online testing from October 7, 2015 through January 29, 2016

<sup>6</sup>The grades 4 and 5 science and social studies NCFEs are not available for fall administrations. The grades 4 and 5 science and social studies NCFEs must be administered only in the spring.

<sup>7</sup> Students with a retained reading label placed in a ¾ transition class or a 4<sup>th</sup> grade accelerated class are provided an opportunity for mid-year promotion by passing the Read to Achieve Test before November 1.

## 2015–16 School Year – Spring

Assessment	Testing Window
WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™) <sup>1</sup>	Initial assessment required within 14 calendar days if the student enrolls after the beginning of the school year.
ACCESS for ELLs® <sup>1</sup>	February 1–March 11, 2016
Alternate ACCESS for ELLs® <sup>1</sup>	February 1–March 11, 2016
ACT® Aspire Periodic Assessments at Grade 8 <sup>2</sup>	September 1, 2015–June 30, 2016
ACT® WorkKeys—Online Administrations	November 16, 2015–February 19, 2016
ACT WorkKeys—Paper-and-Pencil Administrations	February 8–19, 2016
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments <sup>3</sup>	February 1–12, 2016
The ACT®—Initial Test Date (Paper/Pencil)	March 1, 2016
The ACT®—Online Testing Window	March 1–15, 2016
The ACT—Makeup Test Date (Paper/Pencil)	March 15, 2016
The ACT—Accommodations Testing Window	March 1–15, 2016
College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment at Grade 11	March 1–15, 2016
<i>NCEXTENDI</i> Alternate Assessment—Grade 11	March 1–15, 2016
<i>NCEXTENDI</i> Alternate Assessment—Grades 3–8 Math and English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 and 8 Science	Last 10 days of the course (yearlong courses)
<i>NCEXTENDI</i> Alternate Assessment—Biology, English II, and Math I	Last 10 days of the course (yearlong course)
READY End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments—Biology, English II, and Math I <sup>4</sup>	Final 5 instructional days of the semester (4x4/semester courses) Final 10 instructional days of the school year (yearlong courses)
READY End-of-Grade (EOG) Assessments—Grades 3–8 Math and English Language Arts/Reading and Grades 5 and 8 Science <sup>5</sup>	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
Read to Achieve Test—Grade 3 <sup>4</sup>	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
Grade 3 End-of-Grade (EOG) English Language Arts/Reading Retest <sup>5</sup>	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
NC Final Exams	Final 5 instructional days of the semester (4x4/semester courses) Final 10 instructional days of the school year (yearlong courses)

<sup>1</sup> Federal and state policies require all K–12 students identified as language minority students through the Home Language Survey (HLS) process upon initial enrollment be assessed for limited English language proficiency. The state instrument for identification of limited English proficient (LEP) students is the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™). The identification and the subsequent placement of LEP students in English as a Second Language (ESL) services are guided at the state level by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Curriculum and Instruction Division. All students identified as LEP must be administered the ACCESS for ELLs® or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs® during the annual English language proficiency testing window.

<sup>2</sup> The ACT® Aspire Periodics Assessments can be administered on locally determined dates within the designated testing window.

<sup>3</sup> Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) is the process by which local education agencies (LEAs)/charters shall, based on a body-of-evidence, award a student credit in a particular course without requiring the student to complete classroom instruction for a certain amount of seat time.

<sup>4</sup> The EOC Biology, English II, and Math I assessments; the grades 7 and 8 EOG English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics assessments; and the grades 5 and 8 EOG Science assessments are designed for an online administration, but paper-and-pencil versions are available for order. NC Education is available for spring EOC online testing from February 15, 2016 through June 28, 2016

<sup>5</sup> Students at grade 3 who failed to demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for a third-grade student on the regular (first) administration of the EOG English Language Arts/Reading assessment may take the Read to Achieve Test as an option to satisfy the requirements of the Read to Achieve legislation.

**2015–16 School Year – NAEP Testing<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Testing Window</b>
NAEP Music and Visual Arts Assessment at Grade 8	January 25–March 4, 2016
Program For International Student Assessment (PISA)	October 5–November 13, 2015
Program For International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS)	March 1–May 27, 2016

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<sup>1</sup> The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) selects a nationwide sample of schools and students for participation in NAEP 2015–16. Local education agencies (LEAs) and schools selected to participate will be notified by September 2015.