



2012 Biology 1 End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment Fact Sheet

Biology 1 EOC Assessment Overview

The Florida Department of Education is transitioning to EOC assessments for certain high school courses. In Spring 2012, students throughout the state will participate in the Biology 1 EOC Assessment. The Biology 1 EOC Assessment will measure student achievement of the [Next Generation Sunshine State Standards](#) (NGSSS), as outlined in the Biology 1 [course description](#). The schedule for implementing additional Florida EOC Assessments is posted at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/k12memo/pdf/tngcbtf.pdf>.

Timeframe for Testing

The testing period runs from April 23 – May 11, 2012. The Geometry EOC Assessment will be administered during the same window, and districts must complete Geometry testing before they may begin Biology 1 testing. For security purposes, testing at a school should be completed in the fewest number of days possible; however, the district may use up to two consecutive weeks within the established windows, per subject, to accommodate for computer-based testing needs. Districts may schedule one or two sessions per day, depending on school-level circumstances.

Who will be tested in Spring 2012?

- All students enrolled in and completing the following courses:
 - Biology 1 – 2000310
 - Biology 1 Honors – 2000320
 - Pre-AICE Biology – 2000322
 - Biology Technology – 2000430
 - Biology 1 PreIB – 2000800
 - IB Middle Years Program Biology Honors – 2000850
 - Integrated Science 3 – 2002440
 - Integrated Science 3 Honors – 2002450
- Students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year and are enrolled in and completing AP Biology 1 to meet the Biology 1 credit requirement for high school graduation must take the Biology 1 EOC Assessment.
- Students who completed one of the above courses at any time during the 2011-12 school year must take the Biology 1 EOC Assessment.

How will students take the test?

- The Biology 1 EOC Assessment will be delivered via a computer-based test (CBT) platform.
- Paper-based versions (regular print and braille) will be provided for students with disabilities who require allowable accommodations, as specified in their Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) or Section 504 plans.

Test Administration Information

- The assessment will be given in one 160-minute session with a 10-minute break after the first 80 minutes. Students will not be allowed to talk during the break. As with FCAT and FCAT 2.0 paper-based administrations, individual breaks may be allowed as needed. Students may not be dismissed

during the first 80 minutes; however, after the 10-minute break, they may be dismissed as they complete the test.

- Although the assessment is scheduled for a 160-minute session, any student not finished by the end of the 160 minutes may continue working. Testing must be completed within the same school day.
- There will be multiple forms of the assessment, with a maximum of 66 items on each test form. Approximately six to 10 of these items are experimental (field test) items, and are NOT included in student scores. For more information, see the test design summary at: <http://fcats.fldoe.org/pdf/designsummary.pdf>.
- A four-function calculator is provided in the TestNav platform. Students may request the use of a hand-held FCAT four-function calculator after they participate in a practice test and determine that they are not comfortable using the online calculator for testing.
- A Periodic Table of the Elements is provided in the TestNav platform. Schools may make copies of the periodic table provided in the test administration manual and distribute them to students if they prefer to use a hard copy.
- Students will be provided four-page, hard-copy work folders to use as scratch paper. Used folders are secure materials that must be collected after testing and stored or securely destroyed according to district assessment coordinators' instructions.

Scoring and Reporting

- **Equating**—Student results from the different test forms must be reviewed and compared to ensure that the difficulty level is the same for each test form. This process, called “equating,” takes place after testing when enough student scores are in the system to ensure that a representative sample of student results is available for use in the comparison.
- **Scores**—Students will receive a score on a scale of 20-80. This scale is a special scale known as a T-score scale. On this scale, a score of 50 is the statewide average. Individual Student Reports (ISRs) will indicate whether the student’s score falls within the highest third, middle third, or lowest third levels as compared to other students in Florida.
- **Estimated Reporting Date**—Biology 1 scores will be released approximately two weeks after the end of the test administration window.
- **Course Grade**—For students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year and are enrolled in Biology 1, an equivalent course, or AP Biology 1 to meet the Biology 1 credit requirement for high school graduation, each student’s Biology 1 EOC Assessment score must be used to calculate 30 percent of his/her final grade in the course. The method for applying this requirement will be determined and applied by each school district.

Practice Test

Teachers, parents, and students can check out the Biology 1 EOC Assessment computer-based practice test, called an ePAT. This tool is available online at www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT. Instructions for downloading the installer software and ePAT are also located on this site. Students are required to participate in a practice test at their school prior to testing.