

# Parent's Guide to End of Year (EOY) Exams

## 1. What is an EOY?

An EOY is an End of Year exam—the new name for final exams that have traditionally been offered in grades 6 to 12—that must be conducted for each course offered in a school district, unless another assessment is offered.

## 2. What is the legal requirement to conduct EOYs?

Florida State Law (Section 1008.22) requires local school districts to measure student learning in all subjects and all grade levels beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.

## 3. Is this another test for my child?

In most cases, it is not. Students in grades 6 to 12 have always taken a final exam at the end of the school year; the EOY is formalizing the process. Students in grades K to 5 are now required to take a final exam that will allow students to demonstrate mastery of skills learned throughout the year. The assessments will be incorporated into the daily activities in grades K-5.

## 4. Do we have to assess children in primary grades (K-2)?

The statute requires all students (K-12) to be assessed, so we are working to develop the optimal assessment for these students.

## 5. How does the EOY impact my child's grade?

In the elementary school, EOYs will not impact a child's grade but will provide an additional opportunity for students to demonstrate mastery of essential grade level standards.

In middle and high schools the EOY constitutes 20% of the student's grade, while 80% constitutes the student's coursework.

## 6. Does my child have to pass an EOY to either be promoted or graduate from high school?

No. In grades 6 to 12 the student must earn a passing score (60%) for the course that is the sum of both the student's coursework grade and EOY grade. In grades K to 5 the assessments will be incorporated into the student's daily activities.

## 7. How does the EOY compare to other exams such as EOC or FSA?

As stated above, an EOY is the new name for final exams that have traditionally been offered in grades 6 to 12 and must now be offered in grades K to 5.

The Florida EOC Assessments are part of Florida's Next Generation Strategic Plan for the purpose of increasing student achievement and improving college and career readiness. EOC

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assessments are computer-based, criterion-referenced assessments that measure the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for specific courses.

With new, more rigorous standards in place to help Florida students succeed, the FCAT 2.0 no longer serves the purpose of measuring student progress and achievement. Hence, the FSA is replacing FCAT 2.0 for English and Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, although the FCAT 2.0 will still be conducted for Science grade 8.

### **8. Does the process that allows an IEP Team to waive the results of state mandated assessments (such as EOCs, Florida Standards Assessments, FCAT 2.0) for students with disabilities apply to the EOY assessments?**

No. The EOY assessments are final exams developed at district level and serve a different purpose than the EOC exams mandated by the state. Florida statute provisions for a waiver apply only to statewide, standardized assessments (s. 1008.22(3)(c)2., F.S.).

### **9. From where do these EOYs come?**

Most of the EOY items were developed by Florida teachers through various grants sponsored by the Florida Department of Education. The EOY items not developed through grants are the responsibility of the local District to develop.

### **10. Can my child opt out or be exempt from taking an EOY?**

No, [Florida Statute 1008.22](#) requires students enrolled in public education to take these exams.