

Know before you skip: The Truth About Opting Out of State Assessments

The Florida Department of Education requires all public school districts in the state to test students in multiple grades across multiple content areas. While Spring 2020 assessments were canceled due to Covid 19, the FDOE has reinstated state assessments for 2021.

Misinformation about opting out of state assessments continues to confuse parents and students. Please take a moment to review the academic impact of choosing to avoid state assessments.

3rd Grade Reading - Third grade reading scores provide parents and teachers with vital information about potential reading deficiencies or as an indicator for acceleration. If a student's 3rd grade reading scores indicate grade level deficiencies, an academic plan to remediate the student will begin immediately in order to close the reading gap.

10th Grade Reading - See Hernando County School District Student Progression Plan and School Procedures Handbook, p. 52.

Students must pass Grade 10 Reading FSA in order to meet state graduation requirements.

See Hernando County School District Student Progression Plan and School Procedures Handbook, pgs. 57-60.

Exemptions from Reading Assessment: The Florida Dept. of Education offers exemptions such as the "Good Cause" exemption for students who have attempted the 3rd Grade Reading Assessments at least once. Students without a test score, are NOT eligible for exemptions.

Civics (7th Gr.), Alegbra 1, Geometry, Biology, U.S. History - These courses are required for graduation. Each of these courses is tested with an End-of-Course (EOC) exam that carries a 30% weight to the final course grade.

Students who do not take the EOC exams for these courses, earn an "Incomplete" for the course. An "Incomplete" impacts course progression and will not satisfy the graduation requirement.