

Assessment Information for the 2017-2018, in compliance with section 1111 of ESEA

Why Are State Test Important?

State achievement tests tell us how well our students are growing in the knowledge and skills outlined in Ohio's Learning Standards. These tests help guide and strengthen future teaching so we can be sure that we are preparing our students for long-term success in school, college, careers and life. Test results also allow citizens to know how their local schools are performing compared to others around the state.

Ohio Test

Federal and state laws require all districts and schools to test all students in specific grades and courses.

There is no law that allows a parent or student to "opt out" of state testing. There is not a state "opt out" procedure or form. If a parent chooses to withdraw a child from participating in any of the state tests, there may be consequences for the student, the student's teacher, the school and the district.

Possible Consequences for Students When They Do Not Take State Tests

Schools are required to administer state test and students are expected to take them. If a student does not participate in state testing, there may be consequences for the student, the student's teacher, the school and the district.

Possible Consequences:

Third Grade Reading Guarantee: A student who does not take the Third Grade English Language Arts test will not have a score on the test and therefore, may not be promoted to the fourth grade, as a part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, unless an exemption applies. Parents may visit the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for more information on exemptions. thirdgradegarantee@education.ohio.gov

- A district and school receive no credit for a student who does not participate in state testing, which can have a negative impact on a district and schools Local Report Card. District and Schools receive an A-F grade on the report card from the state, in numerous areas of student learning.
- Families and businesses view a district and school report card when determining a location for a business and choosing where to live. This in turn will have an effect on how to vote for tax levies.
- Local Report Card grades may impact parents decision on school choice, flexibility on how funding is spent and which schools receive extra help from the state.
- Student's participation in state testing must be at 95% or higher. Sub Groups within the overall testing student group, is a graded area of the Local Report Card in Gap Closing. When participation drops below the 95%, the district will be given a demotion on Gap Closing and could face new federal restrictions on how money is spent.

- Non-participating students in required state testing will not earn points towards the school’s performance index score.
- Districts and schools cannot count students who do not participate in all state testing in their average daily membership (ADM) for state funding, unless they obtain a waiver from ODE.
- Teachers may be evaluated based, in part, on student test scores. If a student does not take a state test, that student’s growth will not be included in the teacher’s evaluation.
- Teachers will not have access to advanced diagnostic information from the state test, such as a student’s growth projection, which helps to guide instruction.

What State Test Measure

Ohio’s State Tests measure each child’s progress according to Ohio’s Learning Standards. These standards require students to apply critical thinking, problem-solving and writing skills to what they are learning. The standards inform teachers what their students should know and be able to do at the end of each grade level.

Tests Your Child Will Take if in:

3 rd Grade	Reading/Language Arts (fall & spring) April 17 & 18, 2018; Summer, July 13, 2018 Math (spring) April 26 & 27, 2018
4 th Grade	Reading (spring) April 19 & 20, 2018 Math (spring) April 16 & 17, 2018
5 th Grade	Reading (spring) April 5 & 6, 2018 Math (spring) April 18 & 19, 2018 Science (spring) April 23 & 24, 2018
6 th Grade	Reading (spring) April 10, & 11, 2018 Math (spring) April 24 & 25, 2018

Testing Times for Ohio’s State Tests

TEST	PART 1	PART 2	TOTAL (PARTS 1 & 2)
Gr. 3 (FALL)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)
Spring Gr. 3-6 Administrations			
Gr. 3 English Language Arts	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)
Gr. 3 Math	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	150 min (2.5 hrs.)
Gr. 3 ELA Summer	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)
Gr. 4 English Lang. Arts	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)
Gr. 4 Math	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	150 min (2.5 hrs.)
Gr. 5 English Language Arts	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)

Gr. 5 Math	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	150 min (2.5 hrs.)
Gr. 5 Science	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	75 min (1 hr. 15 min)	150 min (2.5 hrs.)
Gr. 6 English Language Arts	105 min.(1 hr. 45 min)	105 min.(1 hr. 45 min)	210 min. (3.5 hrs.)
Gr. 6 Math	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	90 min. (1.5 hrs.)	180 min. (3 hrs.)

What Parent Can Expect

Since Ohio has changed its tests several times, your child's score may be lower than you expect. This does not mean your child is losing ground. It means Ohio has raised expectations for students so by the time they graduate from high school, they are truly ready for college or a career. Your student's skills should improve as teachers continue to teach these concepts. Your child's test scores will be sent to the district around the 4th of June. Around the middle of August, districts and schools will have individual student scores. Parents may/should receive their child's scores by the middle of September.

Gifted Identification

Students are identified by whole-grade testing in second and fourth grade. Our district uses two assessments: Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and CogAT.

District Assessments

Adams County Ohio Valley Elementary Schools use a variety of test to measure student growth. In grades:

- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment is used for informing teachers of children's readiness for Kindergarten
- K & 1, use STAR Early Literacy. This test informs the teacher the areas of a student's strength and weaknesses. This assessment is used three (fall, winter & spring) times a year for benchmarking
- Grade 2 & 3 use NWEA MAP for student performance in Reading, informing the teacher of what students know and what they are ready to learn. This assessment is considered an allowable alternative assessment for the Third Grade Guarantee. This assessment is given two times (fall & spring) during the school year
- Grades 4-6 use district developed assessments based on state standards and STAR assessments given three times a year (fall, winter spring)
- With some students, our district also uses AIMS Web or Journey's Reading Prompts to measure fluency. Frequency depends upon the student
- STAR assessments are given to all students who have reached a measureable reading level. STAR is used to determine the grade level reading skills of students

Title 1 Schoolwide

Our district is a schoolwide district meaning our economically disadvantage population for Free and Reduces Lunches in each building is high enough for us to give Title 1 services districtwide. This district has chosen to provide services in each elementary building grade K-6. Our focus for services is in grades K-3 since the foundation for reading & math skills must be taught and student's master these skills at this age.

Teacher Qualifications

Parents may request information regarding the professional qualification of their child's classroom teachers, including whether the teacher has met the state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade/subject being taught, whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which State qualification or licensing criteria are waived, the teachers baccalaureate degree major, graduate certification, field of discipline and if their child is receiving services provided by a paraprofessional (and their qualifications). Parents may request this information by contacting the school principal's office by phone or email.

Mrs. Deirdre Mills at North Adams Elementary, 386-2516, deridre.mills@ovsd.us

Mrs. Amanda Lamb at Peebles Elementary, 587-2611, amanda.lamb@ovsd.us

Mr. Ben King at West Union Elementary, 544-2951, ben.king@ovsd.us