

Assessment Brief



Public Schools of North Carolina • State Board of Education • Howard Lee, Chairman • North Carolina Department of Public Instruction • June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., Superintendent

Time Allowed for North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests

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North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests

The North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests are curriculum-based multiple-choice achievement tests at grades 3–8 in the areas of reading and mathematics and at grades 5 and 8 in the area of science. These tests are specifically aligned to the North Carolina *Standard Course of Study* and include a variety of strategies to measure the achievement of North Carolina students.

The end-of-grade assessments are given during the last three weeks of the school year. All students at the same grade level within a school are administered the appropriate end-of-grade test at the same time on the same day. Afternoon administrations of the end-of-grade tests are prohibited except for students who receive certain testing accommodations.

Students at different grade levels cannot be administered end-of-grade tests in the same classroom. Testing grade levels in two subjects (i.e., reading comprehension and mathematics, reading comprehension and science, or mathematics and science) on one day is also prohibited.

The administration of the reading comprehension and mathematics end-of-grade tests must occur on consecutive days. The administration of the end-of-grade science test at grades 5 and 8 does not have to occur during the same week and/or on a consecutive day with the reading comprehension and mathematics end-of-grade tests. The science test at grades 5 and 8 may be administered during a different week of the three-week end-of-grade testing

window.

Estimated Administration Time

For the end-of-grade reading comprehension, mathematics, and science test administrations, the stated administration time is the time that the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) estimates it will take for approximately 95% of the tested students to complete the tests. The estimated administration time does not include time for the test administrator to read general instructions to students, for students to code the background information and complete student surveys (if applicable), or for students to take scheduled breaks, when appropriate.

Maximum Testing Time Allowed

The NCDPI requires that all students be allowed ample opportunity to complete the end-of-grade tests of reading comprehension, mathematics, and science. Students who are not finished at the end of the scheduled estimated administration time must be given sufficient time to complete the assessment. However, no administration of an end-of-grade test may exceed the maximum testing time (except for students with documented special needs requiring accommodations, such as *Scheduled Extended Time*).

At the school level, provisions must be made for students who need time beyond the scheduled estimated administration time to complete the test. Test administrators must consult with school test coordinators for procedures to follow in providing additional time to students to complete the end-of-

grade tests of reading comprehension, mathematics, and science.

For best practices, the North Carolina Testing Program strongly recommends that schools schedule each end-of-grade test so that the maximum time allowed does not interfere with lunch or bus schedules. All students, including students with the *Scheduled Extended Time* accommodation, must be allowed to eat lunch during the school day and to travel home at their regularly scheduled time.

Reading Comprehension

The North Carolina End-of-Grade Test of Reading Comprehension at Grades 3–8 must be administered on one day. The estimated testing time for the reading comprehension test is about 140 minutes; the maximum time allowed for the test is 240 minutes.

The number of items, estimated administration time, and maximum time allowed for the reading comprehension test are found in the following chart:

Grades	Items	Estimated Testing Time	Maximum Time Allowed
3–5	58	140 minutes	240 minutes
6–8	62	140 minutes	240 minutes

Mathematics at Grades 3–7

The North Carolina End-of-Grade Mathematics Test at Grades 3–7 consists of two parts: calculator active and calculator inactive. The two parts must be administered on two days. The calculator active part of the test must be administered before the calculator inactive part of the test.

The estimated testing time for the end-of-grade test of mathematics—calculator active at grades 3–7 is about 135 minutes; the maximum time allowed is 240 minutes. The estimated testing time for the mathematics—calculator inactive test is 60 minutes; the maximum time allowed for the test is 150 minutes.

The number of items, estimated administration time, and the maximum time allowed for the end-of-grade mathematics test at grades 3–7 are found in the following chart:

Grades 3–7	Items	Estimated Testing Time	Maximum Time Allowed
Calculator Active	54	135	240
Calculator Inactive	28	60	150

Mathematics at Grade 8

For grade 8, the mathematics test must be administered on one day. The estimated administration time for the North Carolina End-of-Grade Test of Mathematics at Grade 8 is about 150 minutes; the maximum time allowed for the test is 240 minutes.

The number of items, estimated administration time, and the maximum time allowed for the end-of-grade mathematics test at grade 8 are found in the following chart:

Grade 8	Items	Estimated Testing Time	Maximum Time Allowed
Calculator Active	80	150	240

Science at Grades 5 and 8

The North Carolina End-of-Grade Science Test at Grades 5 and 8 must be administered on one day. The estimated administration time for the science test is about 130 minutes; the maximum time allowed for the test is 240 minutes.

The number of items, the estimated administration time, and the maximum time allowed for the end-of-grade science test at grades 5 and 8 are found in the following chart:

Grades	Items	Estimated Testing Time	Maximum Time Allowed
5 and 8	80	130	240

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