*As required by T.C.A. 49-6-6007, the state and districts must post on the respective website a calendar of all state and district-mandated assessments for each school year.*

**2025-26 State Required Assessments**

**ELPA 21 Placement Test (WAPT)**

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee for ESL students.

**Purpose and Use**

ELPA 21 Placement Test for kindergarten or for grades 1-12 administered and parents notified of results within 30 calendar days of enrollment at the beginning of the school year or within 14 calendar days of enrollment during the school year

**Length of Assessment**

No time limit set on the assessment

**Results**

Results are delivered to the school and parent after review.  Results are reviewed by the State Dept to determine the progress of the student in learning English as a language.

**ELPA 21 English Learner (EL) Assessments**

Grades K-12, who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs)

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

Administered in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015.

**Administration Window**

February 2- March 27, 2026

**Results to Parents and Students**

Reports are provided to districts approximately three to eight weeks after the administration of the assessment.  District releases student reports to students/parents after receiving them.  That may be at the end of the school year or at the beginning of the next school year.

**ACT**

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

Pursuant to T.C.A. 49-6-6001, all public-school students must participate in a postsecondary readiness assessment such as the ACT.

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

The ACT is used to measure college readiness and HOPE scholarship eligibility.  During the 2025-2026 academic year, the ACT will be taken by all seniors during a school day in the fall and by all juniors in the spring at no cost to students/families.  Higher scores on the ACT open new doors for students for postsecondary opportunities.

**Administration Window**

**Senior Retake:** Fall—October 23, 2025

**Junior State Testing Day:** Spring—First Window: March 10-13 & 16-20 Second Window: March 24-27 & 30-31, April 1-3 Third Window: April 7-10 & 13-17. The window is chosen when the registration opens. Each school can choose their assessment date. Generally all 3 schools choose the same date.

**Length of Assessment**

* English:  45 minutes- 75 questions

Measures:

Your understanding of English, production of writing and knowledge of language skills.

* Mathematics:  60 minutes- 60 questions

Measures:

The mathematical skills you have typically acquired in courses up to the beginning of grade 12.

* Reading:  35 minutes- 40 questions

Measures:

Reading comprehension commonly encountered in first-year college curricula.

* Science:  35 minutes- 40 questions

Measures:

The interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning and problem-solving skills required in biology, chemistry, Earth/space sciences and physics.

* Writing:  40 minutes- 1 prompt

Measures:

The optional writing section measures writing skills taught in high school English classes and in entry-level college composition courses.

**Result to Parents and Students**

Student level reports are provided to students approximately three to eight weeks after the administration of the assessment.  Parents/students may also access test results through <https://services.actstudent.org>.

**Civics**

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

Per state law (T.C.A. 49-6-1028), all districts must ensure that a project-based civics assessment is given at least once in grades 4-8 and once in grades 9-12.  The project-based civics assessments are developed by the district to ensure students demonstrate an understanding of civics and achieve the learning objectives contained within the social studies standards.  All districts must complete a compliance form.

Additionally, per state law (T.C.A. 49-4-408A), students must pass the United State citizenship and immigration test with at least a 70 percent during the student’s high school career (i.e., grades 9-12).  Schools in which all seniors earning a regular diploma and also earn a passing grade on the U.S Civics Test will be recognized by the department as a U.S Civics All-Star School.  All districts are required to submit a compliance form.

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

To fulfill the law requiring high school students to pass a Civics test.

**Administration Window**

Throughout the 2025-2026 school year.

**Length of Assessment**

The Civics test must be between 25-50 questions coming from the U.S. Citizenship test administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

**Results to Parents and Students**

Student results are shared with parents and students during the semester of his/her American Government class.

**National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)**

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), commonly called the Nation’s Report Card, is the largest nationally representative assessment of what America’s students know and can do in various subject areas including mathematics, reading, and science.  A sample of students is selected to take the test.  Since a sample group of students from each state take the test, NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states across the nation.  Also, because the assessment stays essentially the same from year to year, it provides a clear picture of student academic progress over time.  Learn more about NAEP from the National Center for Education Statistics.

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

Administered in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015, which requires the state to participate in the biennial state academic assessment of fourth and eighth grade reading and mathematics.  Districts that receive Title I funds are required to participate if selected.

**Purpose and Use**

NAEP assessments are administered uniformly using the same sets of test booklets across the nation.  NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts.  The assessment stays essentially the same from year to year, with only carefully documented changes.  This permits NAEP to provide a clear picture of student academic progress over time.  In even-numbered years, NAEP measures Tennessee student’s academic achievement against students in other states also taking this test.

**Administration Window**

January 27-March 7, 2026

Only chosen school(s) (if any) will administer NAEP.  Testing date TBD.

**Length of Assessment**

60-90 minutes

**Results to Parents and Students**

No student level results are provided.

Additional information can be found at nationsreportcard.gov.

**TCAP Grade 2 Optional Assessment**

The Grade 2 optional assessment measures student mastery of the Tennessee Academic Standards in English Language Arts and mathematics.

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

None

**Required**

Not by the state—district chooses to administer.

**Purpose and Use**

This test is given to help measure how much a second-grade students grows academically over the course of a school year.

**Administration Window**

April 13 - May 1, 2026

**Length of Assessment**

English Language Arts:  TOTAL—162 minutes

 Subpart 1:  40 minutes

 Subpart 2:  40 minutes

 Subpart 3:  40 minutes

 Subpart 4:  42 minutes

Math:  TOTAL—82 minutes

 Subpart 1:  40 minutes (no calculator)

 Subpart 2:  42 minutes (no calculator)

**Results to Parents and Students**

Individual student reports will be shared with parents at the beginning of the new school year.

**TCAP Grade 2 Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities**

The TCAP Grade 2 Alternate Assessment is the English Language Arts and Math assessment for students in grade 2 with the most significant cognitive disabilities.  The grade 2 Alternate Assessment is administered via paper by the teacher.

**Required**

No, however if a district opts to administer the TCAP Grade 2 Assessment, they must also administer the Grade 2 Alternate Assessment to eligible students.

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

The development of alternate achievement standards for student with the most significant cognitive disabilities is authorized under a department regulation (34 C.F.R Part 200) published on December 9, 2003, and T.C.A 49-1-612.  The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title I require inclusion of all students with disabilities in the state assessment system.

**Purpose and Use**

This test is given to help measure how much a student grows academically over the course of a school year.

**Administration Window**

April 13 - May 1, 2026

**Length of Assessment**

Students are given the assessment during class time throughout the window based on student needs and class schedules.

**Results to Parents and Students**

Individual student reports will be shared with parents at the beginning of the new school year.

**TCAP Achievement**

**Grades 3-8**

**Federal and State Law**

Administered in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 and T.C.A 49-1-602 pertaining to district and school accountability.  Modified assessments in Braille and large print are also provided in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1990.

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

The TCAP tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills.  TCAP measures student understanding of our state standards.  TCAP Achievement assessments are given to help measure how much a student grows academically in a particular content area.

**Administration Window**

3rd – 5th : April 13 - May 1, 2026

6th – 8th : April 13 - May 5, 2026

**Length of Assessment**

Click below for the 2025-2026 Testing Time Chart

<https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/lea-operations/assessment/testing-times-by-grade-subject.html>

**Results to Parents and Students**

Individual student reports will be shared with parents and the beginning of the new school year.

**TCAP End of Course (EOC)**

**Grades 9-12**

**Federal and State Law**

Administered in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 and T.C.A 49-1-602 pertaining to district and school accountability.  Modified assessments in Braille and large print are also provided in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1990.

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

The TCAP tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills.  TCAP measures student understanding of our state standards.  TCAP EOC assessments are given to help measure how much a student grows academically in a particular content area.

**Administration Window**

Fall Semester December 1st – December18, 2025

Spring Semester April 13-May 1, 2026

**Length of Assessment**

Click below for the 2025-2026 Testing Time Chart

<https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/lea-operations/assessment/testing-times-by-grade-subject.html>

**Results to Parents and Students**

Individual student reports will be shared with parents and the beginning of the new school year.

**Dynamic Learning Maps/KITE**

**Grades 3-8 and 11**

The Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Consortium is made up of state departments of education who use and develop the DLM Alternate Assessment system.

DLM assessments are computer-based and accessible to students with significant cognitive disabilities for whom general state assessments are not appropriate, even with accommodations. DLM assessments offer students in grades three through high school a way to show what they know and can do.

[Accessible Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Systems (ATLAS)](http://atlas.ku.edu/) at the [University of Kansas](https://ku.edu/), a part of the [Achievement and Assessment Institute](https://aai.ku.edu/), facilitates the DLM Consortium in partnership with the [Center for Literacy and Disability Studies](https://www.med.unc.edu/healthsciences/clds) at the [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](http://www.unc.edu/). The project was initially funded in 2010 by a five-year General Supervision Enhancement Grant from the United States Department of Education. The Consortium funds ongoing development of assessments, technology, professional development, research, and assessment administration.

**Applicable Federal/State Law**

The development of alternate achievement standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities is authorized under a department regulation (34 C.F.R Part 200) published on December 9, 2003, and T.C.A 49-1-612.  The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title I require inclusion of all students with disabilities in the state assessment system.

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

This test is given to help measure how much a student grows academically over the course of a school year.

**Administration Window**

Fall Window is September 8, 2025, to December 20, 2025. The Spring Window for the DLM assessment is February 3, 2026, to May 16, 2026

**Length of Assessment**

Students are given the assessment during class time throughout the window based on student needs and class schedules.

**Results to Parents and Students**

Student results are to be shared with parents at the beginning of the new school year.

**Universal Screener/Benchmark**

**Grades K-12**

**Required**

Yes, by the State of Tennessee

**Purpose and Use**

The Tennessee State Board of Education has approved Special Education Guidelines and Standards regarding Evaluations for Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD).  As stated in the Guiding Principles, RTI2 is a process focused on prevention and early intervention that uses assessment data for instruction, intervention, and transitions between tiers.  Assessment is a major component of the RTI2 Framework.  Data derived from assessment informs the data-based decision making process.

An LEA must administer a nationally normed, skills-based universal screener.  A universal screener is a brief screening assessment of academic skills (i.e. basic reading skills, reading fluency, reading comprehension, math calculation, math problem solving, and written expression)  administered to determine whether students demonstrate the skills necessary to achieve grade-level standards.

**Administration Window 3-8**

Fall – Within the first 3 weeks of school.

Winter – December 4 - January 12.

Spring – March 4-15

   May - After TCAP Assessment

**Benchmark Assessment for High Schools**

Fall – August, 2025 within the first 2 weeks of the start of school.

          After Fall Break

Winter – January 8-19, 2026

Spring – March, 2026 the week before Spring Break

**Length of Assessment**

This adaptive assessment has components that last approximately 20-45 minutes.

**Results to Parents and Students**

Data from benchmark scores are used to help determine skill deficit needs of students that score at or below the 25th percentile.  Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature.  However, parents are notified if it is determined that students would benefit from a Tier II or Tier III intervention in reading and/or math.  Results are not used for grades.

**ELPA21**

**Required**

Yes, by the state for ESL students.

**Purpose and Use**

ELPA21 is a comprehensive English language proficiency assessment and instructional system designed to support English learners and their educators.

**Administration Window**

February 2nd – March 27th

**Length of Assessment**

No time limit set on the assessment

**Results**

Results are delivered mid-summer to the school and parent.  Results are reviewed by the State Dept to determine the progress of the student in learning English as a language.