

2026–27 North Carolina Operational Testing Calendar

It is a recommended best practice to complete testing early in the window to ensure sufficient make-up opportunities. The decision to administer a required assessment must be based on student eligibility requirements.

Required Assessments for Grades K–8

| Grade Level | Test Name | Test Window or Date |
|-------------|--|---|
| K–8 | WIDA™ Screener for Kindergarten and WIDA Screener | Initial assessment required within 30 calendar days of enrollment |
| K–12 | WIDA Alternate Screener | Alternate initial assessment administered to eligible students |
| K–8 | WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten, WIDA ACCESS, and WIDA Alternate ACCESS | January 11–March 12, 2027 |
| Grade 3 | Beginning-of-Grade 3 (BOG3) Reading Test | Traditional schools: first 15 days of the school year (days 1 through 15). Year-round schools: first 15 days of school year* beginning July 20, 2026. |
| Grades 3–8 | End-of-Grade (EOG) Tests for Reading and Mathematics; and Science (Grades 5 and 8) | Final 10 instructional days of the school year |

*NCTest does not open until July 20, 2026. For year-round schools opening before July 20, 2026, July 20th is day one of the fifteen-day BOG3 window. For year-round schools opening after July 20, 2026, the first day of school is day one of the fifteen-day BOG3 window.

Required Assessments for Grades K–8 continued

| Grade Level | Test Name | Test Window or Date |
|-------------|---|--|
| Grade 3 | Read to Achieve Test | <p>There are three windows within the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2026: At the conclusion of reading camp. • Fall 2026: Schools offering a transitional third and fourth class combination, or a fourth-grade accelerated class may make the local decision to administer by November 1, 2026. • Spring 2027: final 10 instructional days of the school year |
| Grades 3–8 | NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment for Reading, Mathematics; and Science (Grades 5 and 8) | Final 10 instructional days of the school year |

Required Assessments for Grades 9–12

| Grade Level | Test Name | Test Window or Date |
|-------------|---|---|
| Grades 9–12 | WIDA Screener | Initial assessment required within 30 calendar days of enrollment |
| Grades 9–12 | WIDA Alternate Screener | Alternate initial assessment administered to eligible students |
| Grades 9–12 | Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2026: Last two weeks of July • Fall 2026: September 15–24, October 15–26, and the last five days of the semester • Spring 2027: March 9–18 and the last five days of the semester • Summer 2027: Last two weeks of July |
| Grades 9–12 | End-of-Course (EOC) Tests for Biology, English II, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final 5 instructional days of the semester • Final 10 instructional days of a yearlong course • Final 5 instructional days of a summer school course |
| Grades 9–12 | WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS | January 11–March 12, 2027 |
| Grades 9–12 | ACT WorkKeys | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Testing Window: October 5–November 13, 2026 • Spring Testing Window: February 22–April 2, 2027 |
| Grade 10 | PreACT | October 12–November 20, 2026 |
| Grade 10 | CCRAA | October 12–November 20, 2026 |

*Grades 6–8 for high school courses offered in middle school.

Required Assessments for Grades 9–12 continued

| Grade Level | Test Name | Test Window or Date |
|-------------|--|--|
| Grade 10 | NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessments for English II, Biology, and NC Math 1 | Final 10 instructional days of the school year |
| Grade 11 | The ACT – Standard Time Paper Testing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Date 1: February 23, 2027 • Test Date 2: March 9, 2027 • Test Date 3: April 6, 2027 |
| Grade 11 | The ACT – Standard Time Online Testing Window and Accommodations Window (Paper and Online) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Window 1: February 23–26 and March 1–5, 2027 • Test Window 2: March 9–12 and March 15–19, 2027 • Test Window 3: April 6–9 and April 12–16, 2027 |
| Grade 11 | CCRAA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Window 1: February 23–26 and March 1–5, 2027 • Test Window 2: March 9–12 and March 15–19, 2027 • Test Window 3: April 6–9 and April 12–16, 2027 |
| Grade 11 | NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Window 1: February 23–26 and March 1–5, 2027 • Test Window 2: March 9–12 and March 15–19, 2027 • Test Window 3: April 6–9 and April 12–16, 2027 |

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Assessments

Schools selected to participate in NAEP will be notified.

| Grade Level or Age | Test Name | Test Window |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Grade 8 | NAEP 2027 Science (Pilot) | TBD |