

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grades 3–8 Specifications

Purpose and Overview

The North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool is a system of through-grade assessment opportunities aimed toward a balanced assessment system that will provide granular data for immediate feedback about students' performance throughout the year. The system was developed as a pilot study under the U.S. Department of Education's Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) and includes three interim resources (NC Check-Ins 2.0) and an end-of-grade assessment for mathematics and reading at grades 3–8.

The [NC Check-Ins 2.0](#) are the through-year formative component of the NCPAT system. The purposes are to:

- provide educators, students, and stakeholders with immediate and detailed feedback on student performance on grade-level-specific content standards to inform instruction for individual student's needs; and
- provide a reliable estimate to inform a student's end-of-grade ([EOG](#)) assessment experience.

Content Specification Development

The NCDPI Office of Accountability and Testing/Test Development Section used a combination of in-person and online surveys and webinars to gather feedback from educators across the state.

The following outlines the development of content specifications for NC Check-Ins 2.0:

- To address the main purposes of NC Check-Ins 2.0, the content design was expanded to include at least three domains with a minimum of five standards.
- North Carolina does not have a state-adopted pacing guide and curriculum organization is a local decision. Thus, the criteria for groupings of content standards were based on reviewing feedback gathered from participants.
- In January 2019, the NCDPI Office of Accountability and Testing/Test Development Section facilitated an in-person NC Check-Ins 2.0 specification workshop for grade 4. Teachers and educators, with the majority representing IADA pilot schools, recommended possible groupings of standards. Groupings for each grade 4 NC Check-In 2.0 were later summarized and are currently being used during this pilot phase (see Table 2).

- In October of 2020, a series of surveys was used to gather input on recommended groupings for grade 7 from educators participating in the IADA pilot. Feedback was reviewed and groupings for each grade 7 NC Check-In 2.0 were summarized and are currently being used during this pilot phase (see Table 5).
- In the fall of 2021, statewide surveys were used to gather feedback to guide recommended groupings of grade-level content standards for NC Check-Ins 2.0. In December 2021, staff from the Test Development Section facilitated eight statewide webinars to present draft content specifications for grades 3, 5, 6, and 8. At the conclusion of each webinar, a follow-up survey was shared with webinar participants to gather additional feedback. The NCDPI Office of Accountability and Testing/Test Development Section collaborated with mathematics content staff from the NCDPI Office of Academic Standards and Technical Outreach for Public Schools (TOPS) at North Carolina State University to review feedback and summarize groupings (see Tables 1, 3–4, 6).

Table 1. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 3.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 3 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.3.OA.1 NC.3.OA.2 NC.3.OA.9 NC.3.NBT.2 NC.3.MD.3	NC.3.OA.3 NC.3.OA.8 NC.3.NBT.3 NC.3.MD.7 NC.3.MD.8	NC.3.OA.8 NC.3.NF.2 NC.3.NF.3 NC.3.NF.4 NC.3.G.1

Table 2. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 4.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 4 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.4.OA.1 NC.4.NBT.2 NC.4.NBT.4 NC.4.NBT.7 NC.4.G.1 and NC.4.MD.3	NC.4.OA.3 NC.4.NBT.5 NC.4.NBT.6 NC.4.NF.1 NC.4.NF.2	NC.4.NBT.5 NC.4.NF.3 NC.4.NF.4 NC.4.NF.6 NC.4.NF.7 NC.4.G.2 and NC.4.MD.4

Table 3. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 5.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 5 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.5.OA.2 NC.5.OA.3 NC.5.NBT.5 NC.5.MD.5 NC.5.G.1	NC.5.NBT.6 NC.5.NF.1 NC.5.NF.4 NC.5.NF.7 NC.5.MD.2	NC.5.NBT.3 NC.5.NBT.7 NC.5.NF.3 NC.5.NF.4 NC.5.MD.1

Table 4. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 6.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 6 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.6.RP.1	NC.6.RP.4	NC.6.NS.6
NC.6.RP.3	NC.6.NS.1	NC.6.EE.2
NC.6.NS.4	NC.6.NS.2	NC.6.EE.6
NC.6.G.1	NC.6.NS.3	NC.6.EE.7
NC.6.G.4	NC.6.EE.1	NC.6.G.3

Table 5. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 7.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 7 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.7.G.1	NC.7.EE.1	NC.7.EE.4
NC.7.NS.3	NC.7.EE.3	NC.7.G.5
NC.7.RP.1	NC.7.EE.4	NC.7.G.6
NC.7.RP.2	NC.7.NS.3	NC.7.SP.7
NC.7.RP.3	NC.7.RP.3	NC.7.SP.8

Table 6. Content specifications NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 8.

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Mathematics Grade 8 Assessed Standards		
A	B	C
NC.8.NS.1*	NC.8.EE.7	NC.8.EE.8
NC.8.EE.1	NC.8.F.3	NC.8.F.2
NC.8.EE.7	NC.8.F.4	NC.8.SP.1
NC.8.F.1	NC.8.F.5	NC.8.SP.2
NC.8.G.3	NC.8.G.5	NC.8.SP.3

*Incorporating aspects of NC.8.NS.2

NC Check-Ins 2.0 Format

The NC Check-Ins 2.0 are online resources with twenty-five total questions each. Each of the three mathematics interims will include four-option multiple-choice questions, open-ended numeric response questions, and technology-enhanced questions. For all grade levels, the NC Check-Ins 2.0 will have calculator inactive and calculator active sections.

Administration and Review

To accommodate local control of curriculum, the NCDPI will offer a flexible administration and review window for all interims that will open the third week of September to the end of May. PSUs may choose to administer interims in the order that best aligns with their curriculum. The NCDPI recommends one interim administration per quarter.

Proctors are not recommended for the administration of interims. The interims are not timed; however, the estimated time for most students to complete a twenty-five-item interim is about ninety minutes. Schools have the option to administer the interims in one school day or over multiple school days. For multiple school days, the total administration time can be divided into mini sessions.

The interim item-review window for teachers will also be available from the third week of September to the end of May. Teachers may access interim forms after administration so they can conduct formative reviews with their students. The main purpose of these interims is to provide reliable formative data on grade-level-specific content standards so teachers may adjust instruction. Previewing or disclosing interim content to students before an administration may result in an invalid interpretation about student performance on grade-level-specific content standards.

Some schools may not have completed the entire scope for all standards assessed in a NC Check-In 2.0 before the administration.

Supplemental Materials and Additional Resources

The [NCTest tutorial page](#) has been updated to include technology-enhanced question sets for grade spans (grade three, grades four and five, middle school, and high school). These practice questions are not included in the Online Assessment Tutorial requirement but offer students additional exposure to grade-specific technology enhanced question types and may be accessed via <https://go.ncdpi.gov/NCTest>.

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