

Resources for the 2023-24 School Year

Welcome back to school! The NCDPI Test Development Section shares the following resources with classroom teachers. Please forward appropriately.

The following are the most frequently requested links.

Test Specifications

- NCDPI publishes content specifications for all state-developed assessments. Each document gives the purpose of the assessment, question counts, types of questions, weight distribution by domain (i.e. reading for information, reading for literature, and language), and weight distribution by cognitive complexity (depth of knowledge).
 - [End-of-Grade \(EOG\) Test Specifications](#)
 - [End-of-Course \(EOC\) Test Specifications](#)
 - [NC Check-Ins 2.0 Specifications](#)
 - [NCEXTEND1 Test Specifications](#)
 - [Beginning-of-Grade 3 \(BOG3\) Reading Specifications](#)

Released Tests

- NCDPI releases one version of each assessment during the first operational year of a new assessment. The released tests meet all test specifications listed above.
 - [Released EOG Forms](#)
 - [Released EOC Forms](#)
 - [Released NCEXTEND1 Items](#)
- Online released tests may be accessed through the secure browser, NCTest apps for Chromebook and iPad, and via <https://data.ncsu.edu/nctest/Destination.html> by clicking on the released items icon.
- Copyright and reading selections
 - **PDF files:** At this time, the PDF files of reading released forms posted to the NCDPI website for the North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests of Reading **may not** include all of the reading selections for print due to copyright restrictions.
 - **Online viewing:** All reading selections are available to review within the online EOG released forms for grades 3-7. For the grade 8 reading released form, the first selection is not available for print or online viewing due to copyright restrictions.

Achievement Level Descriptors

- Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs) describe the knowledge, skills, and abilities students at each ability level (Not Proficient and Levels 3–5) are expected to demonstrate at the end of a grade or course. ALDs are specific for each grade/course. These are adopted by the State Board of Education following a new assessment's first operational year
 - [ALDs for EOGs](#)
 - [ALDs for EOCs](#)
 - [ALDs for NCEXTEND1s](#)

Family Guide to Assessment

- Both print and video versions of the Family Guide to Assessment are available for PSUs to share.
 - [Family Guide to Assessment](#) (5 page guide)
 - [Family Guide to Assessment \(en español\)](#)
 - [Family Guide to Assessment video](#)

Embedded Calculator Webinars

- Each fall, NCDPI partners with Desmos certified educators to present a series of grade-span webinars on the NCTest embedded calculators.
 - Grades 3–5: [4-Function Calculator](#)
 - [Agenda](#)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)
 - Grades 6–8: [Scientific Calculator](#)
 - [Agenda](#)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)
 - Grade 8 and High School: [Graphing Calculator](#)
 - [Agenda](#)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)

MetaMetrics

- North Carolina EOG reading tests and the English II EOC test are linked to Lexiles; North Carolina EOG mathematics tests and the NC Math 1 EOC test are linked to Quantiles. Other vendor assessments may also provide Lexile and Quantile measures.
- NCDPI partners with MetaMetrics to access grade-span and content-centered Lexile and Quantile Tool resources. All North Carolina teachers are eligible for free premium access by signing up using their school email address.
 - [Lexiles](#)
 - [Quantiles](#)

NCTest Updates

- For the 2022-23 school year, the NCTest application was updated to include multiple highlighter colors, a notepad, and the ability for students to enter mixed numbers (equivalent improper fractions are still accepted).
- For the 2023-24 school year, the NCTest application has been updated to include an electronic pen.

Technology-Enhanced (TE) Questions by Test Chart

- This chart provides all possible question types by test. Some tests have multiple versions, and the versions may have different TE question types. Students may not see all TE question types listed for a test.
 - [TE questions by test](#)

TE Question Practice Sets

- The NCTest application has been updated to include TE question sets for grade spans. These question sets allow students to interact with all possible TE question types across a variety of subject areas. These are supplemental to the online tutorials.
 - <https://data.ncsu.edu/nctest/Destination.html>
 - Grade 3 Technology Enhanced Item Practice
 - Grade 4 and 5 Technology Enhanced Item Practice
 - Middle School Technology Enhanced Item Practice
 - High School Technology Enhanced Item Practice
 - Calculator Practice Environment

New Science Standards Update

- New science standards were approved at the July 6, 2023, State Board of Education meeting. The current 2009 science standards will remain in place for classroom instruction and assessment for the 2023-24 school year. The new standards and new assessments will be implemented beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

Accessing NC Check-Ins 2.0 Reports

- All NC Check-Ins 2.0 reports are accessed online.
 - [NC Check-Ins 2.0 Handbook](#)
- Two optional online courses are available to assist teachers with using these reports for instructional use.
 - [Understanding Reports](#)
 - The NCPAT course, Understanding Reports, is designed to introduce participants to the purposes of the NC Check-Ins 2.0 and how they can be used to support learning as formative classroom resources. Participants will develop an understanding of how to use and interpret two main reports from NC Check-Ins 2.0, specifically the Individual Student Report and the Class Item Report.
 - [Diving Deeper](#)
 - The NCPAT course, Diving Deeper into Formative Assessments, is designed to:
 - immerse participants in the use of data literacy,
 - develop an understanding of how utilizing data in assessments is integral to K-12 teaching and learning;
 - identify and explore best practices in data-driven decision making as identified within research-based strategies;
 - empower educators and teacher leaders to create a positive culture where change can best be understood and embraced by students and parents; and;
 - invite educators to interact and collaborate with peers who are implementing assessments, such as NC Check-Ins 2.0, into classroom instruction by creating a professional learning network.