

2025–26 North Carolina Operational Testing Calendar

It is a recommended best practice to complete testing early in the window and reserve the final days for makeup testing.

Grades K–8 ¹		
Grade Level	Test	Test Date
K–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WIDA™ Screener for Kindergarten WIDA Screener 	Initial assessment required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within 30 calendar days of enrollment
K–8	ACCESS for ELLs	Test Window: January 12–March 13, 2026
K–8	WIDA Alternate ACCESS	
3	Beginning-of-Grade 3 (BOG3) Reading Test	Traditional schools: first fifteen days of school year (Days 1-15) Year-round schools: first fifteen days of school year ² beginning July 16, 2025
3–8	End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading and Mathematics Grades 3–8, and Science Grades 5 and 8	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
3	Grade 3 EOG Reading Retest	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
3	Read to Achieve Test for Grade 3	There are three windows within the year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer 2025: At the conclusion of reading camp Fall 2025: 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, 2025 Spring 2026: Final 10 instructional days of the school year
3–8	NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment for Reading and Mathematics Grades 3–8, and Science Grades 5 and 8	Final 10 instructional days of the school year
5–8	End-of-Course (EOC) Tests for Biology, 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 yearlong course

¹The decision to administer a required assessment must be based on eligibility requirements.

²NC Test does not open until July 16, 2025. For year-round schools opening before July 16, 2025, July 16th is day one of the fifteen day BOG3 window. For year-round schools opening after July 16, 2025, the first day of school is day one of the fifteen day BOG3 window.

Grades 9–12¹		
Grade Level	Test	Test Date
9–12	WIDA Screener	Initial assessment required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 30 calendar days of enrollment
9–12	Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2025: July 18–31 • Fall 2025: September 17–30 • Spring 2026: February 13–26 • Summer 2026: July 17–30
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 yearlong course • Final 5 instructional days of the summer school course
9–12	ACCESS for ELLs	Test Window: January 12–March 13, 2026
9–12	WIDA Alternate ACCESS	
9–12	ACT WorkKeys	Fall 2025: October 20–December 5, 2025 Spring 2026: February 17–March 27, 2026
10	PreACT (Paper and Online Testing)	October 13–November 20, 2025
10	College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment (CCRAA) at Grade 10	
10	NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment for English II, Biology, and NC Math 1 at Grade 10	Final 10 instructional days of the school year

¹The decision to administer a required assessment must be based on eligibility requirements.

Grades 9–12¹ (continued)		
Grade Level	Test	Test Date
11	The ACT – Paper Testing Standard Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Date 1: February 24, 2026 • Test Date 2: March 10, 2026 • Test Date 3: March 24, 2026
11	The ACT – Paper Testing Accommodations Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Window 1: February 24–27 and March 2–6, 2026 • Test Window 2: March 10–13 and March 16–20, 2026 • Test Window 3: March 24–27, March 30–31, and April 1–3, 2026
11	The ACT – Online Testing Standard & Accommodations Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Test Window 1: February 24–27 and March 2–6, 2026 • Online Test Window 2: March 10–13 and March 16–20, 2026 • Online Test Window 3: March 24–27, March 30–31, and April 1–3, 2026
11	College and Career Readiness Alternate Assessment (CCRAA) at Grade 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Window 1: February 24–27 and March 2–6, 2026 • Test Window 2: March 10–13 and March 16–20, 2026 • Test Window 3: March 24–27, March 30–31, and April 1–3, 2026
11	NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment at Grade 11	

¹The decision to administer a required assessment must be based on eligibility requirements.

NAEP³		
Grade Level or Age	Test	Test Date
Grade 4 and 8	NAEP 2026 Reading and Mathematics	Test Window: Late January to Mid-March 2026

³Schools selected to participate in NAEP will be notified.

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