



End-Of-Course Tests (EOCT) Retest Administrations Update Bulletin

1/4/2012

Retests Calendar 2012

Administration Windows:

January 17 – 27
February 6 – 17
March 5 – 16
June 18 – July 20
August 6 – 17
September 17 – 28

Future dates will be
communicated
through updates to
the State Testing
Calendar

Retest Additional Order Windows:

January Retest:
January 2 – 25

February Retest:
January 23 –
February 15

March Retest:
February 20 –
March 14

The primary purposes of the End-Of-Course Tests (EOCT) are to assess student achievement of the state adopted curriculum in core courses and to provide diagnostic data in support of improved student achievement.

Retest administrations are being made available to further enhance the program and to provide an opportunity for students who did not meet the standard to demonstrate their proficiency.

There are ten courses designated by the State Board of Education that require the EOCT: Ninth Grade Literature and Composition, American Literature and Composition, Mathematics I and Mathematics II, GPS Algebra and GPS Geometry, U. S. History, Economics/Business/Free Enterprise, Biology, and Physical Science. The EOCT serves as the final exam for the above courses. The EOCT score comprises either 15% or 20% of the students' final course grade dependent upon their initial date of enrollment in grade nine.

STUDENTS TO BE RETESTED

The following students are eligible to participate in EOCT retest administrations:

- Students who passed the course, but who did not meet the standard on the associated EOCT.
- Students who did not pass the course and who also did not meet the standard on the associated EOCT.

Retests are **not** provided for EOCTs that were taken prior to the winter 2011 administration. Consideration should be given to whether a retest would be in a student's best interest.

Students are not required to participate in retest administrations. It is important to note that the availability of retest opportunities does not alter the Secondary Assessment Transition Plan adopted by the State Board of Education in April 2011.

Students who passed the EOCT are not eligible to retest, regardless of whether they passed the course or not. Furthermore, the retest may not be utilized for the sole purpose of providing students the opportunity to earn a passing EOCT score that can stand in lieu of a passing Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHS GT) score (as provided for under the terms of the Secondary Assessment Transition Plan). Only students enrolled in the course the previous semester and who meet the criteria above may participate in the retest, beginning in winter 2011.

Eligible students may participate in a retest administration only once for the semester/year in which the student was enrolled in the associated course; we are unable to provide multiple retest opportunities. For example, a student who did not meet standard on the Biology EOCT in winter 2011 is eligible to participate in any of the retest windows that follow the winter 2011 administration within the 2011-2012 school year. The student is limited to one retest opportunity.

ADMINISTRATION

All EOCT retest administrations must be administered online through Pearson Access. Specific form numbers will be assigned for each EOCT that will identify them in Pearson Access as the designated retest form.

Systems may request paper/pencil materials as an “Additional Order” for a student with a disability that prevents the student from accessing the assessment in an online format. Braille and Large Print will be available for students who require these formats. Please note that Pearson Access has the ability to deliver a large print version online.

Retests must be administered and supervised by a Georgia-certified educator. All Examiners and Proctors must be trained in test procedures prior to test administration. Maintaining test security and test integrity is critical. Students and teachers need to understand test protocols and the ramifications of not following testing procedures. Please ensure examiners are circulating the room, monitoring student behavior during the test.

Retest administrations will be offered multiple times during the year. In most cases, they will occur in conjunction with the Mid-Month windows. Additionally, to provide needed flexibility for systems and schools, these windows (both retest and Mid-Month) will be two weeks in length. Systems may retest at any time during the defined state retest windows. Retests should NOT be conducted during the spring and winter Main Administration windows. All students who are eligible to retest should do so after having completed a targeted period of remediation designed by their local system/school.

Individual subject areas should continue to be administered on the same or consecutive days within a system. Make-up opportunities must be provided for students who are absent during testing. If a student is absent on the day of their assigned retest(s), they may be allowed to participate in future retest windows.

Testing Irregularities: A testing irregularity must be dealt with immediately. All irregularities must be coded, with documentation completed and submitted using the Testing Irregularity Form in the MyGaDOE portal. In addition to the student’s name and EOCT administered, please include form numbers for each student listed in your documentation.

Scoring and Reporting: On-Demand Preliminary Class Rosters, Class Rosters, and Individual Student Reports (ISRs) will be posted on PearsonAccess. Data files may be requested once Class Rosters and ISRs are available. To make this request, please contact Pearson at georgia@support.pearson.com.

RESOURCES

The following System Readiness Tools are available for districts to support online testing:

- System Checks: TestNav, Network User Capacity, Testing Volume Calculator
- Infrastructure Trial
- One-on-one training on PearsonAccess

The use of these tools is important for systems testing online for the first time. For use of the above-mentioned resources, please contact the Pearson Customer Call Center at (888) 705-9414.

The Test Coordinators and Examiner's Manuals, and EOCT Pre-administration PowerPoint presentation are also posted on the website. To access these documents, go to: http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/ci_testing.aspx?PageReq=CL_TESTING_EOCT.

Please print and review documents prior to testing and utilize when training your staff.

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