

## 2023–2024 Florida B.E.S.T. End-of-Course Assessments Private School Student Parent/Guardian Information Sheet

Please review the following information and requirements regarding your private school student's participation in the upcoming Florida End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment administration.

### **Florida B.E.S.T. EOC Assessments Overview**

Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards for Mathematics were adopted by the State Board of Education on February 12, 2020. Beginning with the 2022–23 school year, Florida's statewide, standardized end-of-course (EOC) assessments in Algebra 1 and Geometry are aligned to the B.E.S.T. Standards.

### **Student Registration Form and Registration**

Registration is required and must be completed as follows:

- Complete fields on the *Student Registration Form* and the *Accommodations Request Form*
- Provide accurate information on registration no later than **Friday, April 5**
- For any inquiries, please email [privatefsa@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:privatefsa@palmbeachschools.org)

### **Student Identification on Day of Test Requirement**

The Florida Department of Education has created the following rule for admission of students to testing rooms: "Precautions must be taken at testing sites when students are unknown to the test administrator or other school staff. For security purposes, photo identification, such as a Florida ID or school ID, must be checked before admitting unfamiliar students to a testing room."

Your student MUST present **photo identification** to staff to verify his/her identity. ***Please ensure that your student has a school or Florida-issued photo ID on the date of testing.*** Florida ID cards can be purchased at a local branch of the Department of Motor Vehicles. More information is at <http://www.dmv.org/fl-florida/id-cards.php>. A current passport is also acceptable if the picture is recent enough for recognition.

### **Practice Test Participation**

All students who will participate in a computer-based Spring 2024 administration for the first time are strongly encouraged to participate in a practice test for the subject test they are scheduled to take. Students should be encouraged to access the practice test on the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal and practice on their own. **The purpose of the practice test is to orient students to the types of items and response formats on computer-based tests. Student responses should not be used as an indicator of student performance on the actual test.**

- Sample test materials allow teachers, parents/guardians, and students to become familiar with the various item types that will be encountered on the EOC assessments, as well as the system, functionality and tools on the online platform.
- Computer-based tests and answer keys for each assessment are available on the [Students & Families portal](#) page.

### Testing Policies

Please be sure to review the following policies and discuss them with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—if your student is found with ANY electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, cameras and Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds) during testing, including breaks, his or her test will be invalidated, which means it will not be scored. The best practice is for students to leave devices at home on the day of testing or bring the device in a plastic storage bag that will be collected and kept in a bin by the Test Administrator.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—all EOC assessments include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads, “I understand these testing rules. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students must acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking a checkbox beside the statement in the secure browser or signing below the statement in their test documents.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—the last portion of the testing rules read to students before they affirm the Testing Rule Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, responses, and passages) after the test. Please make sure that students understand this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online.
- **Test Invalidations**—students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the FDOE employs a test security company, Caveon Test Security, to analyze student test results to detect unusual similarities in answer patterns.
  - Students’ tests within a classroom that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—if students leave the testing facility before completing the test (for lunch, an appointment), they **will not** be allowed to complete the test. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait to be tested on a make-up day. Please reach out to the Assessment Department at 561-434-8355 as soon as you are aware of any illness.

### Test Administration Information






- Florida’s EOC assessments are delivered via a computer-based test (CBT) platform on the Cambium Test Delivery System (TDS).
- The B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 and Geometry EOC assessments are computer-adaptive and reported in the Florida Reporting System (FRS) as students complete testing. Because the assessments are computer-adaptive, items may become progressively harder as students successfully respond to items and easier if students answer more questions incorrectly.

- The Algebra 1 and Geometry EOC assessments are administered in one 160-minute session with a 10- minute break after the first 80 minutes. Any student finished by the break will be allowed to leave. Any student not finished by the end of the 160-minute session may continue working for up to the length of a typical school day.
- Students are provided a [CBT Work Folders](#) to work out any problems, if needed.
- The [Calculator and Reference Sheet Policies for Florida Statewide Assessments](#) document provides more information regarding calculator and reference sheet policies for all assessments. Students have access to an [online scientific calculator](#) and reference sheet for both the Algebra 1 and Geometry assessments.
- **Spring Test Dates:** Saturday, May 4; Saturday, May 11; and Saturday, May 18. Testing begins promptly at 9:00 AM.
- **Test Location:** Parents and students will be notified by email of the assigned test date and time and location after registration is complete.

### Receiving Scores

Results for B.E.S.T. EOC assessments are reported in FRS within 24 hours of the student completing testing. Standard setting took place in Summer 2023 to establish a new scale with Achievement Levels aligned to the B.E.S.T. assessments. Beginning with Winter 2023, scores are reported on the B.E.S.T. scale approved by the State Board of Education. For more information on the standard setting process, please visit the Standard Setting page on the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) website.

Student performance on Florida’s statewide assessments is categorized into five achievement levels. The B.E.S.T. Achievement Level Descriptions further specify what students should know and be able to do in each grade level and subject as indicated in the applicable standards. Achievement levels describe a student’s success with the content assessed. As required by state law, achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 as the lowest and Level 5 as the highest. Achievement Level 3 indicates On Grade Level performance across all assessments. A breakdown of achievement levels for each assessment is provided below.

| Achievement Levels   |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
|             |         |  |  |  |
| <b>Well Below Grade Level:</b><br>Likely to need substantial support for the next grade/course | <b>Below Grade Level:</b><br>Likely to need substantial support for the next grade/ course | <b>On Grade Level:</b><br>May need additional support for the next grade/ course    | <b>Proficient:</b><br>Likely to excel in the next grade/ course                      | <b>Exemplary:</b><br>Highly likely to excel in the next grade/ course                 |

**Table 2. B.E.S.T. EOC Scale Score Ranges for Each Achievement Level**

| Assessment | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Algebra 1  | 325–378 | 379–399 | 400–417 | 418–434 | 435–475 |
| Geometry   | 325–384 | 385–403 | 404–422 | 423–431 | 432–475 |

For Summer 2024 and beyond, the following information will be reported:

- Students will receive an overall scale score and achievement level on the B.E.S.T. scale.
- Students will also receive category scale scores and achievement levels for reporting categories.
- After the close of the window, the FDOE will report percentile ranks at the student level for parents, schools, and districts.

### Helpful Links and Resources

Please access the following resources for more information.

- **Registration Link for Spring Testing (deadline Friday, April 5):**  
[Spring 2024 EOC Private School Student Registration](http://l.sdpbc.net/uojmp) or type <http://l.sdpbc.net/uojmp>
- **2023–24 B.E.S.T. End-of-Course Assessments Fact Sheet:**  
<http://l.sdpbc.net/90cs0>
- **Additional information and sample reports may be found in** [Understanding FAST and B.E.S.T. Reports for Families](#)
- **Graduation Requirements for Statewide Assessments:**  
<http://l.sdpbc.net/66esr>

### Communication

Any communication will be directed through email. For any questions or information related to testing private school students, please reach out via email to [privatefsa@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:privatefsa@palmbeachschools.org).