

Once a year and less time – 2015-2016 Spring Ohio's State Tests

Ohio's State Tests measure student progress toward Ohio's Learning Standards. They help us make sure every Ohio student receives a high-quality education. Student test results show that students have the knowledge and skills they need to move successfully to their next steps in education or a career.

Students in grades 3-8 and high school will take Ohio's State Tests in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies in the 2015-2016 school year. Districts have the option to give students the tests on computers, in paper format or using a combination of both formats.

How long is a test?

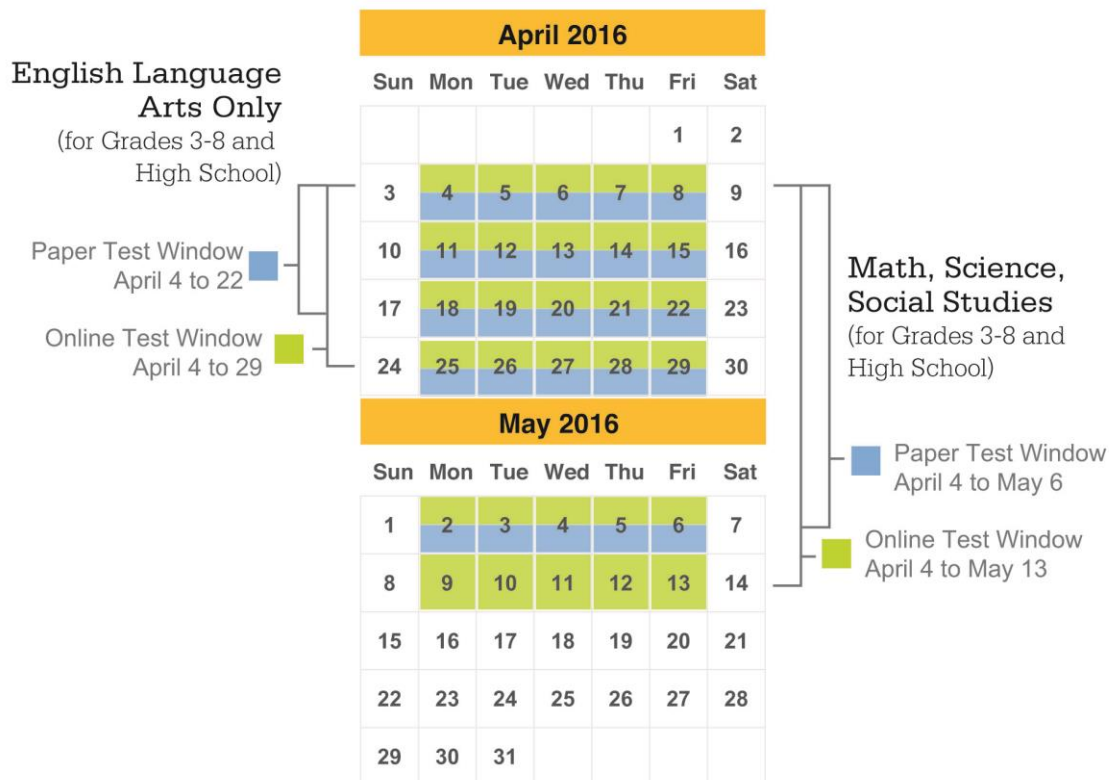
Each test will be approximately three hours (180 minutes) and will be divided into two parts. Districts will choose whether their students will take a test in two 90-minute sessions or in one 180-minute session.

When will districts offer the tests?

School districts will select either 10 consecutive days (for paper tests) or 15 consecutive days (for online tests) during the windows of dates allocated for the tests:

- English language arts tests – April 4 to 22, paper tests; April 4 to 29, online tests.
- Mathematics, science and social studies – April 4 to May 6, paper tests; April 4 to May 13, online tests.

Districts will have flexibility to choose one or two sets of test dates. They can select either the same dates for all tests, or one set of dates for English language arts and a later set of dates for the tests in the other content areas (math, science and social studies).



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What will the tests look like?

Test blueprints in English language arts and mathematics will be available in September 2015, with sample test items available in October 2015. Social studies and science [sample items are already available](#) as well as [blueprints within the Test Specification](#) documents.

Who is developing the tests?

Ohio will use its existing contract with the American Institutes for Research (AIR), a well-known test vendor. AIR provided Ohio's 2014-2015 science and social studies tests. Ohio educators will help review and select the test questions.

Which tests will be given for what grade level?

Grades 3-8

| | English language arts | Mathematics | Science | Social Studies |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------|---------|----------------|
| Grade 3 | X | X | | |
| Grade 4 | X | X | | X |
| Grade 5 | X | X | X | |
| Grade 6 | X | X | | X |
| Grade 7 | X | X | | |
| Grade 8 | X | X | X | |

High School Courses

Classes of 2018 and beyond – End-of-course tests in English language arts I and II, algebra I, geometry (or integrated mathematics I and II), biology or physical science (class of 2018 only), American history and American government.

Classes of 2015-2017 – Ohio Graduation Tests and end-of-course tests in American history and American government.

Other Tests and Schedules

- For students taking block courses in Fall 2015, districts are to select 15 consecutive days during the online test window of Nov. 30 to Jan. 8. Or, if they will administer paper tests, they should select 10 consecutive days from Dec. 8 to Jan. 8.
- This fall, Ohio's third grade English language arts test will be administered from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11. Districts are to select five consecutive days during that window for the test. There will be a reading sub-score of this test that will be used for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee requirement. More details about the Fall Third Grade Reading Guarantee are forthcoming.
- Spring 2016 dates for other Ohio State Tests (Ohio Graduation Tests, Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities and the English Language Proficiency Assessment) are [posted here](#) (www.education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Test-Dates/2015-2016-Testing-Dates).

When will districts receive results?

Districts and schools will receive results by June 15 for grade 3 English language arts and by June 30 for all other tests.

For more information

- See the [State Test Updates page](#) (www.education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/State-Test-Updates-for-2015_2016), where those who are interested may sign up to receive email notification of major news.
- Send any questions to statetests@education.ohio.gov.