properly trained for the specific test administration. Testing must be conducted during the published schedule for the specific test, or DTCs must provide the SCDE with a written request for an alternative schedule.

Districts must notify the Office of Assessment and Standards, in writing, that out-of-state testing will occur and must provide the following information: district, school, name of test, student's name, student's grade, name of professional who will administer the test, dates of the test administration, and the location of the testing.

Requirements for Calculator Use in 2025–26

The Desmos calculator is the recommended calculator for EOCEP Algebra 1 and Biology 1 assessments. The Desmos calculator is embedded into the online test engine. Using the Desmos calculator will reduce security risks and the burden on test administrators to clear memories on handheld calculators before and after testing. The Desmos calculator can be accessed for free at www.desmos.com and used by students during daily instruction. However, the calculators available on the EOCEP Algebra 1 and Biology 1 exams may differ from the free version. To learn more about the differences between the free Desmos calculator and the testing version used on these exams, visit https://www.desmos.com/testing/southcarolina. From there, download the South Carolina PDF and select the appropriate Desmos testing calculator for your exam.

Online Calculators

Students taking the Algebra 1 and Biology 1 tests will have access to both the Desmos scientific and graphing calculators.

Hand-held Calculators

Students may use a scientific calculator or one of the graphing calculators listed below during the Algebra 1 and Biology 1 tests after following the 'Procedures for Using Handheld Calculators' below. A graphing calculator closely matches the functionality of the online Desmos graphing tool. Calculators *must not* have a Computer Algebra System (CAS).

Allowed hand-held graphing calculators (*No other* graphing calculator may be used.):

- Texas Instruments: TI-73, TI-83 series (all), TI-84 series (all), TI-Nspire, TI-Nspire CX, TI-Nspire CX II, TI-Nspire with TI-84 touchpad (The TI-Nspire with TI-84 touchpad must have the TI-84 touchpad installed during testing.)

- Casio: fx-9750GIII, fx CG50 PRIZM

- NumWorks: NumWorks graphing calculator

- Students who are blind and/or have visual impairments may use the Orion TI-84 Plus Talking Graphing Calculator with the Accessibility Attachment or the Orion TI-30XS Talking Calculator, as determined by the student's IEP or 504 plan. When using these talking calculators, students must use headphones or receive an individual administration.

Procedures for Using Hand-held Calculators

To avoid test security violations and to ensure validity of the test scores, hand-held calculators must have the most up-to-date operating systems and must be cleared as described.

Checking the Operating System

The most up-to-date, manufacturer's operating system must be installed on all hand-held calculators. Before testing, each calculator must be checked by the School Testing Coordinator (STC) or the Test Administrator (TA) to ensure compliance. The operating systems must be *greater than or equal to* the following:

- TI-73: 1.91

- TI-83: 1.19

- TI-83 Plus, TI-83 Plus Silver Edition: 1.19

- TI-84 Plus, TI-84 Plus Silver Edition: 2.55

- TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition: 4.2

- TI-84 Plus CE: 5.8.3

- TI-84 Plus CE Python: 5.8.3

- TI-Nspire using TI-84 Plus touchpad: 2.55

- TI-Nspire CX: 4.5.5

- TI-Nspire CX II: 6.2

- Casio fx-9750GIII: 3.7

- Casio fx-CG50 PRIZM: 3.8

- NumWorks: 24.3.0

Clearing the Calculator Memory, Data, Applications, and Programs

The STC or the TA, *not* students, must clear all calculators (i.e., scientific and graphing) **before** and **after** testing. **All memory, data, applications, and programs must be deleted from RAM and Archive.** (The "Finance" App on TI calculators is part of the operating system and cannot be deleted.) Directions for clearing calculators can be found on the manufacturers' websites. The district or school must locate and distribute the clearing directions.

Test Mode for TI-Nspire CX and TI-Nspire CX II:

The TI-Nspire CX and TI-Nspire CX II must be put into Test Mode to disable sliders and prevent access to data stored on the calculator. The directions for placing the TI-Nspire CX and TI-Nspire CX II into Test Mode are on the TI website here: https://education.ti.com/en/high-school-state-test-map.

Exam Mode for Casio Calculators:

All Casio calculators must be placed into Exam Mode. The directions for Exam mode are:

- Press [SHIFT]+[AC] (Off)

- Hold [COS], [7], and [AC/ON] to power up the device with the Exam Mode prompt

- Press [F1] (Yes), then [F2] (Continue?)

Exam Mode for NumWorks:

The NumWorks graphing calculator must have the memory cleared and be put into Exam Mode to disable Exact results, Equation solver, and Advanced graphing. The directions for placing the NumWorks graphing calculator into Test Mode are on the NumWorks website here: www.numworks.com/calculator/exams/south-carolina/.

Additional Steps for Student-Owned Calculators

Students must agree to the following steps before being allowed to use their personal calculator:

1. Students should back up any data, applications, or programs they wish to save.

2. Students must turn in their calculator at least 24 hours before testing to allow the STC or TA to verify that an up-to-date manufacturer's operating system is installed and to clear the calculator as described in the previous section.

3. The school must maintain possession of the calculator until testing.

4. When the student completes the test, the TA must collect and keep the calculator until it has been cleared as described in the section above.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Washington at lwashington@ed.sc.gov or Kirsten Hural at khural@ed.sc.gov.

Policy on Use of Electronic Devices

During testing, students may not be in possession of **any electronic or other device** that can be used for communicating, recording, timing, creating images, or storing images. These devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, media players, electronic readers, headphones, smart watches, stop watches, electronic translators, handheld devices, or any electronic imaging or photographic devices.

This restriction does not apply to devices documented for use in a student's IEP or 504 Plan, such as medical devices for monitoring diabetes or headphones or earbuds needed for an oral administration. During testing these devices should be used in the same manner in which they were utilized in the classroom each day. In the case of a student with diabetes who is using a device for continuous glucose monitoring, the device (cell phone, meter, transmitter, etc.) may be kept on the student, on the student's desk or on the teacher's desk depending on the type of device. In the case of cell phone usage, the teacher should monitor to ensure the phone is used only to monitor the glucose levels. If the student experiences extreme or sudden changes in glucose levels (up or down), the student must be allowed to take precautions as outlined in the student's IEP, 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan.

The district and school must have procedures in place for the collection of these devices prior to the beginning of testing. TAs must remind students immediately upon entering the testing room that no electronics are allowed during testing and for them to be powered off and placed in the designated location. Before passing out test documents, including test session tickets, TAs and Monitors should once again request that all electronics be powered off and placed in the designated location. Finally, while reading the directions from the *TAM*s, TAs should, for the third time, ask for electronics to be powered off and placed in the designated location. Students are not permitted to have any papers in the sleeves or covers of their testing devices. Schools must have policies/procedures in place for TAs and monitors to check testing-device covers for papers.

Testing Environment – Procedures for Schools/Districts

Planning for and providing an appropriate test setting is essential to ensure standardized testing conditions for all students. Schools must adhere to the following standards to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to perform their best on the SC READY assessments.

- Tests should be administered in a familiar setting to reduce student test anxiety and simplify test security.

- Students should be tested in rooms that have good lighting and are well ventilated with a reasonable temperature.