



Parent and Guardian Information

Overview

- The South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessment (SC READY) program is a statewide assessment for students in grades 3–8 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics, and in grades 4 and 6 for science. The SC READY tests measure the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards taught in ELA, Math, and Science classes. These standards are located on the SCDE website: <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>
- All students, including students with disabilities and multilingual learners (MLs), must be administered SC READY except for those students who qualify for the South Carolina Alternate Assessment (SC-Alt) as determined by their IEP team.



Testing Window

- The SC READY assessment **must be administered during the last twenty school days** as determined by each district's instructional calendar. Districts and schools will schedule specific test dates and post these dates to their websites.
- The SCDE requires that districts schedule **grade three ELA reading assessments during the first five days** of the testing window to receive student test scores for determining attendance at summer reading camp as mandated by the South Carolina Read to Succeed Act.

Test Administration

- The SC READY tests are not timed. However, students should complete each test before the end of the regular school day.
- The ELA test for grades 3–5 will be configured as a 3-part test. The parts will be divided as follows: Writing, Reading Part A, and Reading Part B. All reading sections must be administered during the same school week. The ELA test in grades 6–8 will be administered using the original two-day test format. The assessment will be administered over two days, with each section given on separate days: Writing and Reading.
- The math test for grades 3–5 will be a two-day test for spring 2026. The two sections of the math test must be administered in the same school week. For grades 6–8, the math test section will have a revised order. The “no calculator” section will be administered first, followed by the “calculator” section, and will be administered as a one-day test.

Test Format

- SC READY assessments are administered exclusively in a computer-based format. However, paper-based testing accommodations are available for students whose disabilities prevent them from participating in online assessments, as documented in their IEP, 504 Plan, or ILAP (for multilingual learners).

Translations/Accessibility

- Parent resources—including this brochure, sample score reports, and the Writer's Checklist—are available in multiple languages and accessible formats. Visit the Student and Parent Resource webpage to access translations, large-print documents, or to request other alternate formats:

<https://ed.sc.gov/tests/assessment-information/student-and-parent-resources/>



Types of Test Items

- ELA, mathematics, and science tests have questions with varying degrees of difficulty.
- The ELA test consists of selected-response (SR) items in grades 3–8, technology-enhanced (TE) items in grades 4–8, and evidence-based selected-response (EBSR) items in grades 5–8. The ELA test also includes a Text-Dependent Writing (TDW) item. The TDW item requires that students read a passage(s) and respond to a prompt or task while drawing upon the text(s) for their written response.
- The mathematics test for grades 3–8 consists of SR items, multi-select (MS) items, and TE items. TE items include drag and drop, hot spot, drop-down list, matching, graphing input, and keypad (type in an answer).
- The science test consists of SR, EBSR, and TE item types: drag and drop, hot spot (click to select), match interaction (click to select based on criteria), and text highlight. Constructed-response items are bar graph (click to generate bars on a graph), numeric response, and dropdown list. Tests also include stimulus sets consisting of a passage that may contain a graph, map, diagram, etc. and three associated questions.

