# Gaston County Schools - Fall Semester – 2026-2027
# Final Exam Schedule

(Traditional High Schools and Early College High Schools)

Teacher-made final exams will take place during December 9-11th, 2026. Specific exam dates will be determined based on school needs. Schools will dismiss at the regular time during those days.

| Time | Monday<br>December 14, 2026 | Tuesday<br>December 15, 2026 | Wednesday<br>December 16, 2026 | Thursday<br>December 17, 2026 | Friday<br>December 18, 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8:30 – 12:00 | EOC and CTE Exams | EOC and CTE Exams<br>Make-up Testing | EOC and CTE Exams<br>Make-up Testing<br>EOC Re-testing | EOC Re-testing | EOC Re-testing |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Continuation of *Ample time EOC sessions*<br><br>Bag Lunch & Dismiss | Continuation of *Ample time EOC sessions*<br><br>Bag Lunch & Dismiss | Continuation of *Ample time EOC sessions*<br><br>Bag Lunch & Dismiss | Continuation of *Ample time EOC sessions*<br><br>Bag Lunch & Dismiss | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams<br><br>Bag Lunch & Dismiss |
| 1:00 – Regular Dismissal Time<br><br>*All times are approximations | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams | Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher-made exams<br><br>Teachers finalize grades, close out semester |

**Schools may not begin any exam administrations prior to the start of the exam schedule as printed above.**

SPECIAL NOTES:

- ➢ Revise the times above to fit your school bell/class period schedule. Exam periods must be a minimum of 196 minutes for EOC's and 120 minutes for CTE EOC's.
- ➢ For students who ride a bus and who must do makeup testing, your lead driver or business manager should work with the students and drivers to determine bus transportation home.
- ➢ Alert feeder schools of dismissal times.
- ➢ Students who are in school for the exam period are to be counted present.
- ➢ Each teacher is expected to keep accurate student attendance records by class period for all exam days.

The following procedures are provided to guide the successful administration of high school final exams. They are in addition to the standard testing procedures provided by NCDPI, GCS Testing Office, and other applicable rules and procedures.

1. All subjects must administer a final exam, unless an exception is authorized by the Testing Department of GCS and/or the office of the Executive Directors of Secondary Instruction or the student meets the exam exemption criteria for teacher-made exams.
2. All final exams must be administered during the approved time period provided by GCS. By NC law that is the final five days of each semester.
3. Teacher-made final exams must be cumulative in nature. Specifically, a teacher-made final exam must cover the entire curriculum, as opposed to a "quiz-type" exam. However, there are no specific requirements regarding minimum length. As a practice, all teacher-made exams should be provided to the Principal prior to the first day of exams. This allows for review and adjustment, if necessary, to meet these requirements and expectations.
4. Performance-based courses may include a performance element as part, but not all, of the final exam grade.
5. Exceptions to these procedures must be approved by at least the School Principal and GCS Executive Directors of Secondary Instruction.