

TCAP Social Studies

Grades 6-8 Assessment Overview

Social Studies Assessment Overview

This fact sheet provides information about the social studies assessments in grades 6-8. The social studies assessments in grades 6-8 will assess the [2019 Tennessee Academic Standards for Social Studies](#), which require students to demonstrate historical awareness, geographical understanding, and the ability to analyze primary and secondary source documents.

The Social Studies assessment is administered in two subparts.

All TCAP social studies assessments for grades 6-8 will be administered using online testing. For more information on TCAP assessments, click [here](#).

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the testing administration windows on the department’s [website](#).

Within the state testing window, testing schedules are established **by the district at the school and/or district level**. It is the district’s discretion to allow schools to set their own testing schedules, independent of a district testing schedule.

Test Administration Subpart Timing and Structure

The following timing details are applicable to the social studies assessments for grades 6-8. The testing structure below reflects the total of both the number of operational assessment items and the number of field test assessment items.

Subpart 1	Subpart 2	Summary
50 minutes	50 minutes	100 minutes
27 items	27 items	54 items

Assessment Blueprints

Assessment Blueprints describe the content and structure of an assessment. The assessment blueprints for TCAP provide expectations of the possible number of items that may appear on a given TCAP assessment by reporting category and standard(s). The assessment blueprints for TCAP can be found in LiveBinder ([here](#)) by selecting the tab for a given content area.

Item Types

The TCAP Social Studies assessments are administered using **Selected Response** and **Technology Enhanced** item types. These item types are used in multiple ways to elicit responses that demonstrate understanding of the Tennessee Academic Standards for Social Studies.

Selected Response items used for TCAP grades 6-8 social studies assessments can include:

- Multiple Choice – These are items with four answer options and only one correct answer. Multiple Choice items are worth one point on social studies assessments.
- Multiple Select – These are items with more than four answer options and multiple correct answers. Multiple Select items are worth two points on social studies assessments, with partial credit awarded if at least fifty percent of the correct answer choices are identified.

Technology Enhanced items utilize online assessment platform capabilities. Technology Enhanced items are worth two points on social studies assessments, with partial credit awarded if at least fifty percent of the correct answer choices are identified.

A sampler containing the various types of Technology Enhanced items students may encounter can be found on SchoolNet and the TestNav platform [here](#). Use the directions below for access:

- Select Tutorials (below the login prompt).
- Under TCAP Samplers, click Start.
- Enter your name as “Guest” and select Start.

Additional Information

The department has provided the following resources to support educators and students:

- **The Assessment Development LiveBinder** houses resources from the TDOE Assessment team. Examples of resources include blueprints, assessment overviews, practice tests, item releases, and practice items. The Assessment Development LiveBinder can be found [here](#).
- **SchoolNet** is a TDOE provided formative assessment platform. Resources include released items and various formative assessments across all TCAP-assessed contents and grade levels. There are ready-made assessments as well as item banks for users to access and create custom assessments. SchoolNet can be accessed [here](#).
- **TestNav** is the summative assessment platform utilized for administering TCAP assessments. Resources include a TestNav Tutorial, the Technology Enhanced Item Sampler (details above), and Test Practice Items. TestNav can be found [here](#).

Please visit the [department's website](#) for more information about the statewide assessment program.