# Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Calendar
## 2026-27 School Year

### Required TCAP Assessments

| Assessment Name | Administration | Administration Window |
|---|---|---|
| TCAP End-of-Course (EOC) | Fall | November 30–December 17, 2026 |
| TCAP Achievement (ACH) & EOC Window* | Spring | April 7– May 6, 2027 |
| TCAP-Alternate Science & Social Studies (Alt) Grades 3–8 and EOC | Spring | March 15–April 30, 2027 |
| TCAP-Alt ELA & Math | Fall | September 14–December 18, 2026 |
| TCAP-Alt ELA & Math | Spring | February 1–May 7, 2027 |
| TCAP Grade 2-Alt (Optional)+ | Spring | March 15–April 30, 2027 |

+Participation in the Grade 2 assessment is a district option and includes both the general education and alternate assessments.

*All Paper-based tests (PBT) for English/Language Arts Part 1 (Writing) for Grades 2-5 must be shipped April 16; Grades 6-8 must complete all PBT ELA subparts and ship by April 23; and End-of-Course (EOC) all English PBT subparts must be completed and returned by April 26.

### Other Assessment Dates

| Assessment Name | Administration | Administration Window |
|---|---|---|
| ACT | Fall 2026 Senior Retake | First Window: September 29–30, October 1–2 & 5–9<br>Second Window: October 13–16 & 19-23<br>Third Window: October 27–30, November 2–6 |
| National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)** | Spring | January 25 – March 19, 2027 |
| English Learners Assessment | Spring | February 1–March 26, 2027 |
| ACT | Spring 2027 Junior Testing | First Window: March 9–12 & 15–19<br>Second Window: March 23–26 & 29–31, April 1–2<br>Third Window: April 6–9 & 12–16+ |

+ The ACT dates the week of April 12–16 overlap with the spring EOC writing administration window.

**Only a small subset of schools will be selected for national and international assessments administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Districts will be notified of selections in Summer 2026.

**Initial File Release by Administration**

Fall 2026 EOC Administration – December 30, 2026

Spring ACH & EOC Computer-based testing – May 17, 2027

Spring ACH & EOC Paper-based testing – May 20, 2027

**Spring 2027 Administration Windows**

The spring administration will open on April 7 with the ACH Grades 2-8 English/Language Arts (ELA) Writing subparts. The following section outlines the completion of the ELA window, and the return ship dates for all paper-based testing (PBT) materials

- Grades 2-5 ELA Part 1 (Writing): April 7 -15, with return of consumable test books and answer documents by April 16
- Grades 6-8 ELA CBT (Writing subparts): April 7-15 (this includes Subpart 1 and 2)
- Grades 6-8 ELA PBT: April 7- 23 (This includes **all subparts and must be completed and returned no later than April 23**.)

Districts have the flexibility to start the End-of-Course (EOC) English writing subparts (subparts 1 and 2) prior to April 19 or the week of April 19. EOC computer-based testing (CBT) English writing subparts (subparts 1 and 2) must be completed by April 26. However, **all PBT English subparts (4) must be completed by April 26 and returned for scoring on that day.** This mirrors the fall EOC timeline for English administration (April 19-26).

The ACH Grades 2-5 ELA will be administered using two test books. The first will be ELA Part 1 (Writing) and ELA Part 2 (Reading). The test construction is the same as previous years with the addition of one embedded field test item in Part 1. For Grades 6-8 and EOC PBT, there is one test book with the additional field test item. All PBT testing must be completed by the assigned date to make the Initial File. Missing the return dates may cause a risk to the scoring of answer documents and inclusion in the file.

**All make-ups for both ACH & EOC must be returned as soon as completed to meet initial reporting**. Waiting until the end of the window will not guarantee making the initial reporting window. The embedded field test item for writing replaces the Stand-Alone Field Test previously administered.

**Assessment Calendar Expectations**

This calendar has been developed in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-6001(f) and 49-1-617(b), requiring the Commissioner of Education to create a testing window that maximizes instructional time and returns raw scores before the end of the instructional term. Local education agency (LEA) instructional calendars may vary and are at the discretion of local boards of education. LEAs have the flexibility to determine local testing schedules that fall within available administration windows.

No later than July 31 of each year, each LEA must post on its website information about state-mandated tests and tests mandated by the LEA that will be administered in the upcoming school year, as required by Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-6007. Publicly posted information shall include the name of each test to be given,

the purpose and use of the tests, the grade or class in which the tests are to be administered, the dates on which the tests will be administered, and how and when parents and students will be informed of all test results. LEAs are also required to disseminate the testing information to parents by placing it in each school's student handbook, or other standard or policy guidebook that contains the policies and procedures of the school and is distributed annually. Specific information on the dates associated with preparations, data validation, and results returns for each state-administered assessment in this calendar are in the *Assessment Milestones* document, which will be available in August. This calendar document includes dates provided by third-party assessment administration contractor(s) and is subject to change.