

2025 - 2026 DCS DISTRICT ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

Assessment	Grades	Applicable Federal/State Law	Purpose	Test Window	Reporting
Student Achievement: Elementary and Middle Schools					
TNReady-TCAP (Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program) TCAP Achievement (ACH) Grades 3-5 (Paper-Based) TCAP ACH Grades 6-8 (Computer-Based)	3-5 6-8	Paper- Based and Computer-Based This test is given to comply with Every Student Succeeds Act § 1177 and Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) §49-1-602.	TCAP assessments measure students' skills in english-language arts, math, science and social studies. Test results are used in teacher, school, and district accountability with the State of Tennessee and the Federal Government. Results also count for 10% of a student's final grade in those subjects.	December 1 – 18, 2025 April 13 - May 1, 2026	Results are typically available soon after the test is given so teachers can calculate final grades. Later the state releases more detailed individual student reports. These are distributed by district office staff to schools and then shared with families.
Student Achievement: High School Courses					
TNReady-TCAP End of Course (EOC) Exams TCAP EOC (Computer-Based)	Students enrolled in certain high school level courses	These tests are given to comply with Every Student Succeeds Act §1177 and Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) §49-1-602.	These assessments measure a student's skills in high school English I, II, Integrated Math I, II, III, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Biology, and U.S. History. Test results are used in teacher, school, and district accountability with the State of Tennessee and the Federal Government. Results also count for 15% of a student's final grade in those subjects.	December 1 – 18, 2025 April 13 - May 5, 2026	Results are typically available soon after the test is given so teachers can calculate final grades. Later the state releases more detailed individual student reports. These are distributed by district office staff to schools and then shared with families.
Student Achievement: Exceptional Education					
TCAP Alternate Assessments (AAD & TCAP-Alt) TCAP-Alt ELA & Math TCAP-Alternate Science & Social Studies (Alt) Grades 3-8 and EOC TCAP-Alt ELA & Math	3-11	This assessment is given to comply with Every Student Succeeds Act §1177 and Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) §49-1-602.	This assessment is designed for students with significant intellectual disabilities. It is based on a different set of content standards than the TCAP test. Students only take the alt-portfolio assessment when parents/guardians and education decide it is appropriate according to the students' needs. More information can be found on TDOE's Alternate Assessment website .	September 8 - December 19, 2025 March 9 - April 24, 2026 February 2 - May 15, 2026	The state releases individual student reports with details of performance. These are distributed by district staff to schools and then shared with families.

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U.S. Civics Exam	9-12	This test is given to comply with Tennessee Code Annotated §49-6-408.	Students graduating after January 1, 2017, are required to take a United States civics exam composed of questions administered as part of the civics test administered by the U.S. citizenship and immigration services. Students may attempt the test multiple times during their high school career. A minimum passing score of 60 is required for high school graduation.	Schools schedule as necessary	Results are available soon after the test is given. Results are maintained in Skyward to document participation for graduation and will print on transcripts.
College & Career Readiness					
ACT	11-12	This test is given to comply with Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C. A.) §49-6-6001 (b).	The ACT is a college readiness test utilized by hundreds of colleges and universities. It also helps determine which students are eligible for the HOPE scholarship from the state and is a graduation requirement. Visit ACT website for more information. *Our LEA does not participate in any TDOE ACT test dates	ACT National Test dates ACT Arranged Test dates	Student-level reports are provided 3-8 weeks after the test is administered. Results are maintained in Skyward to document participation for graduation and will print on transcripts.
Screenings for Academic Support					
(ExactPath) Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI ²) Benchmark Universal Screener	K-12	This test is given to comply with the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004 34 CFR 300.8(c)(10) and TN Special Education and Services Act 0520-01-09 Rule 0520-01-09-12.	RTI ² (Response to Instruction and Intervention) is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. The RTI ² process begins with high-quality instruction and universal screening of all children in the general education classroom. It includes periodic assessments to identify each student's specific needs in reading, writing and math so they can get the appropriate level of instruction.	August 5 – Dec. 22, 2025 Jan. 5, 2026–May 22, 2026 May 26, 2026 – July 31, 2026	Student-level reports should be shared with parents by the school. Students who take part in intervention will receive regular progress reports for parents and guardians.

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(AIMSweb +) Universal Screener Dyslexia Screening Process	K-12	State "Say Dyslexia Law"	Dyslexia Screening Process and grades K-8 will participate in skills-based reading, writing, and math screening assessments. Students in grades 9-12 identified by the Early Warning System will participate in reading, writing, and math benchmark assessments.	August 5 – Dec. 22, 2025 Jan. 5, 2026–May 22, 2026 May 26, 2026 – July 31, 2026	The student's parents or legal guardians are notified and provided information and resource material regarding dyslexia.
English Learners Assessment	K-12	This test is given to comply with the Every Student Succeeds Act §1177.	This assessment evaluates language proficiency of English Learner students. More information can be found on TDOE's EL Assessments website	February 2 - March 27, 2026 <i>state test administration</i>	The state releases individual student reports. These are distributed by district office staff to schools and then shared with families.
Progress Monitoring Assessments	K-12 (<i>as applicable</i>)	TN State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-.03(6)	State – Progress monitoring tools provide, nationally normed skills-based assessments utilized for students who score below the 26th percentile on the Universal Screener.	Continuous Testing Time: 1-30 minutes depending upon subtest taken	Parents will receive notification if the results of the universal screening process indicate their child meets the requirements for additional academic support and intervention(s). Results are not used for grades.

***Current information throughout the year regarding state and district assessments can be found on the Tennessee Department of Children's Services website:**

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/education.html>

Visit these sites for more information:

TNReady: <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/lea-operations/assessment/tnready.html>

ACT: <https://www.act.org/>