



## 2017–18 State High School English Language Arts/Literacy Assessments

Achieve collected, from publicly available sources (e.g., state education agency websites), the English Language Arts (ELA)/literacy assessments states administered statewide in high school in 2017–18.

What changes did states make to English Language Arts/literacy assessments in 2017–18?

**Nine states** (KY, MT, NE, NC, ND, OK, RI, WV, and WY) administered a new statewide summative ELA assessment in 2017-18. Of these, three states (OK, RI, and WV) selected the redesigned SAT as their statewide assessment, and two (MT and NE) administered the ACT. NC administered the pre-ACT to all students. ND had a federal waiver to allow districts to select the ACT in lieu of the statewide summative assessment. Three states (KY, ND, and WY) administered new state-developed assessments in spring 2018.

Which assessments did students take in 2017–18?

**Twenty-six states** administered either the ACT or the SAT in high school. **Twenty-six states** administered a state-developed assessment in ELA, and **eleven** administered an assessment developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) or Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

- **Fourteen states** (AR, HI, KY, LA, MS, MO, MT, NC, NE, ND, SC, TN, UT, and WI) administered the ACT to all high school students in the spring. Of these, **three states** (MT, NE, and WI) used the ACT as their only ELA exam. All others administered the ACT in addition to another statewide test. North Dakota, pursuant to a federal waiver, allowed individual districts to administer the ACT in lieu of the statewide summative assessment, and administered the ACT to all students.
- **Eleven states** administered the SAT to all high school students in 2017-18 (CO, CT, DE, DC, IL, ME, MI, NH, OK, RI, and WV). Of these, **eight states** (CO, CT, DE, IL, ME, NH, RI, and WV) used the SAT as their only ELA exam. Oklahoma selected SAT as its statewide summative assessment but allowed individual districts to choose to administer the ACT to all students.
- Ohio provided students the option of taking either the ACT or the SAT. Ohio required that all students take a college entrance exam in high school, and districts had the option of administering either the ACT or the SAT.
- **Seven states** (CA, HI, ID, OR, SD, VT, and WA) assessed students in ELA using Smarter Balanced, while **four states** (DC, MD, NJ, and NM) administered a PARCC assessment in ELA.

Do students have to pass these assessments to graduate?

For the graduating class of 2018, **19 states** had student stakes tied to an assessment – **six states** factor student scores on the assessment(s) into course grades and in **13 states** students must pass an assessment to graduate. **Thirty-two states** have no assessment stakes for students in the class of 2018.

A few considerations to keep in mind when reviewing the assessment table below:

- As states phase in new assessments, some are introducing the assessments by cohort, e.g., the class of 2018 (the more common approach for comprehensive assessments), and others are introducing the assessments by school year, e.g., students who take an Algebra I course in 2017–18 take the Algebra I assessment, regardless of what year they will graduate (the more common approach for end-of- course assessments).
- In states that administer EOC assessments, the expectation is that a student will take the EOC assessment when the student completes the course. In other words, students take the appropriate EOCs for the ELA and mathematics courses in which the student is enrolled. In states where assessments are classified as “only students who elect to take the course,” the course itself is not a graduation requirement, but the state administers a statewide assessment for students who elect to enroll in the course.
- Regarding student stakes, states have different policies for how much such tests matter for students or whether there are stakes attached. Most commonly, students are either required to achieve a passing score on an assessment or suite of assessments to graduate or the assessment results are factored into a student’s course grade. All states that require students to achieve a passing score to graduate offer students alternate routes to meeting the requirement if they are unable to meet the passing score on the assessments.



2017-18 High School ELA Assessments		Grade taken	Which students take the assessment	Student stakes (Factors into course grades OR students must pass assessment to)	Change from 2016–17 to 2017–18	Additional Notes
AL	ACT Plus Writing	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
	ACT WorkKeys	Grade 12	All students	No	No	
AK	Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS)	Grades 9 and 10	All students	No	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> The law that made taking the SAT, ACT, or WorkKeys a requirement for receiving a high school diploma expired June 30, 2016. <a href="#">Source</a>
AZ	Arizona's Measurement of Educational Readiness to Inform Teaching (AzMERIT) ELA EOC in English 9	EOC	All students	No	No	
	AzMERIT EOC in English 10	EOC	All students	No	No	
	AzMERIT EOC in English 11	EOC	All students	No	No	
AR	ACT Aspire Early High School	Grades 9 and 10	All students	No	No	
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
CA	California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CASPP) Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
CO	PSAT	Grades 9 and 10	All students	No	No	
	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
CT	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
DE	PSAT	Grade 10	All students	No	No	
	SAT	Grades 11 and 12	All students	No	No	
DC	PARCC English I EOC	EOC	All students	No	Yes	<b>Assessment administration:</b> It will be a local option in 2017-18 to administer the PARCC English III assessment.
	PARCC English II EOC	EOC	All students	No	No	
	PARCC English III EOC	EOC	Local Option	No	No	
	SAT	Grades 11 and 12	All eligible students	No	Yes	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> If an eligible student is present at school on SAT School Day, they are expected to take the SAT exam.



2017-18 High School ELA Assessments		Grade taken	Which students take the assessment	Student stakes (Factors into course grades OR students must pass assessment to)	Change from 2016–17 to 2017–18	Additional Notes
<b>FL</b>	Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) English 10	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate beginning with students entering grade 9 in 2013-14	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> Florida students must pass the English 10 FSA and Algebra I EOC to graduate. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in 2014-15, to qualify for a scholar diploma designation on a standard high school diploma, a student must earn a passing score on the Geometry and Algebra II EOCs (as well as Biology and U.S. History). <a href="#">Source</a>
<b>GA</b>	Georgia Milestones Assessment System 9th Grade Literature and Composition	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	
	Georgia Milestones American Literature and Composition	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	
<b>HI</b>	Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
	ACT plus writing	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>ID</b>	Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISATs) (Smarter Balanced ELA)	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate (see note)	No	
<b>IL</b>	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>IN</b>	Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress Plus (ISTEP+) aligned to Indiana State Standards ECA in English 10	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate beginning with Grade 10 students in 2016-17	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> In 2015-16, the ISTEP+ Grade 10 Assessment (E/LA and Math) became the state’s accountability exam. The ECAs (aligned to the IAS 2000 Algebra I, 2006 English 10 standards) will be available for retakes through the 2018-19 school year. <a href="#">Source</a> .
<b>IA</b>	Iowa Assessments (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>KS</b>	Kansas Assessment Program (KAP) ELA	Grade 10	All students	No	No	
<b>KY</b>	Kentucky End-of-Course Field Test – English II	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	Yes	<b>Field Test:</b> The EOC field tests will not produce student scores or performance levels; therefore, test results will not be included in public reporting for Fall 2018.
	K-PREP (Writing)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	<b>Career Ready Assessment:</b> ACT WorkKeys or KOSSA are optional for the state accountability system, but students on a career pathway may be required to participate in one or more of these assessments due to local policy. One of two career readiness assessments are required.
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
	ACT WorkKeys or KOSSA	High School	Local Option	No	No	



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<b>LA</b>	English II EOC	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> EOCs comprise between 15 percent and 30 percent of the student’s final grade in the subject. To earn a standard high school diploma, students must earn a score of Fair or above on three EOCs, including one in each category — Algebra I or Geometry, English II or English III, and Biology or U.S. History. <a href="#">Source</a>
	English III EOC	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
	ACT WorkKeys	Grade 11	Primarily for students in grade 11 who are on track for a Jump Start Diploma	No	No	
<b>ME</b>	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>MD</b>	PARCC English II EOC	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate beginning with class of 2024.	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> Student stakes: In ELA and math, students graduating in 2018 only had to participate in the PARCC English 10 and Algebra I assessments. The Class of 2019-2023 need a passing score of 725 on the English 10 and Algebra I assessments. Students graduating from high school in 2023-2024, who are first time ninth graders in 2020-2021 and beyond, need a passing score of 750.
<b>MA</b>	Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) - ELA	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> All Massachusetts high school students through at least the class of 2019 must continue to pass the grade 10 high school MCAS tests in ELA and Mathematics to satisfy the state graduation requirement.
<b>MI</b>	Michigan Merit Exam (MME) (SAT with Essay, ACT WorkKeys)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	<b>Assessment administration:</b> The Michigan Merit Examination (Grade 11) is comprised of the SAT with Essay, ACT WorkKeys, and M-STEP summative assessments science and social studies. <a href="#">Source</a>
	PSAT	Grades 9 and 10	All students	No	No	
<b>MN</b>	Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) - ELA	Grade 10	All students	No	No	
<b>MS</b>	Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) - English II	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> Starting in the 2016-2017 school year, MAAP scores constituted 25 percent of a student’s final grade in the applicable course. <a href="#">Source</a>
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>MO</b>	English I EOC	EOC	Local Option	No	No	
	English II EOC	EOC	All students	No	No	
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>MT</b>	ACT plus Writing	Grade 11	All students	No	Yes	



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NE	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	Yes	
NV	ELA English 10	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade (see note)	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> The State Board of Education adopted a phased implementation of EOC finals. In the 2017-18 school year, there is no percentage requirement and districts have the discretion to set a percentage of the student's final grade if they choose to. In the 2018-19 school year, the EOCs count for 10% of course grade; in the 2019-20 school year, the EOCs count for 15% of course grade; and for the 2020-21 school year and beyond, the EOCs count for 20% of course grade.
	ACT plus Writing	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
NH	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	<b>Assessment administration:</b> NH also gained approval for their PACE pilot assessment program.
NJ	PARCC English 9 EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> For the classes of 2016, 2017 and 2018, students will be able to satisfy the state requirements of demonstrating proficiency in ELA in several ways. For ELA, students may achieve a passing score on a PARCC ELA assessment in grades 9, 10 or 11 <i>or</i> achieve a passing score on a Substitute Competency Test <i>or</i> meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal. Additional guidance can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
	PARCC English 10 EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	
	PARCC English 11 EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	
NM	PARCC English I EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> Students in grades 9–11 must take their grade-level PARCC ELA tests unless they are enrolled in a higher-level ELA course. In that case, they may take the PARCC ELA test corresponding to their course. Students in grades 9–11 enrolled in a course lower than their grade level (e.g., an 11th grader enrolled in English/Language Arts II) must take their grade-level PARCC test.  <b>Student stakes:</b> In order to receive a standard diploma, students must pass: PARCC ELA Grade 11 with at least a score of 725 (Performance Level 3) <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 11 Reading subscore of at least 42 and PARCC ELA Grade 11 Writing subscore of at least 31.
	PARCC English II EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	
	PARCC English III EOC	EOC	All students	See note	No	
NY	Regents English Language Arts Exam	EOC	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	<b>Student Stakes:</b> All students must take and pass five Regents exams in ELA, math, social studies, science, and one pathway assessment.
NC	North Carolina READY EOC in English II	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	
	PreACT	Grade 10	All students	No	Yes	
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	



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	ACT WorkKeys	Grade 11	Seniors who are Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentrators	No	No	
ND	North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA)	Grade 10	All students (see note)	No	Yes	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> The ACT and Workkeys is administered to all students. North Dakota also gives districts an option to use grade 11 ACT in lieu of grade 11 NDSA for high school accountability assessments in ELA and Math.
	ACT/WorkKeys	Grade 11	See note	No	No	
OH	ACT or SAT	Grade 11	Local Option	No	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> Districts will select either the ACT or SAT to administer each school year.  <b>Student stakes:</b> Beginning with the Class of 2018, students in Ohio earn points toward graduation on seven end-of-course exams: English I and II, Algebra I/Integrated Math I, Geometry/Integrated Math II, physical science, American history and American government. With few exceptions, students must accumulate a minimum number of points from scores on their end of course exams to become eligible for a diploma. <a href="#">Source</a> .
	English Language Arts I	EOC	All students	See note	No	
	English Language Arts II	EOC	All students	See note	No	
OK	SAT	Grade 10	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> For the 2017-18 school year, Oklahoma will use the SAT as the state assessment. Oklahoma will allow LEAs to choose the ACT, a locally selected, nationally recognized high school assessment as allowed under section 1111(b)(2)(H), in place of the SAT state assessment in reading/language arts and mathematics in high school for accountability purposes in spring 2018.
OR	Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	Passing score required to graduate (see note)	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> In Oregon, there are multiple ways students may demonstrate the Essential Skills graduation requirements; students are not required to pass the state test (Smarter Balanced) in order to graduate, though achieving a passing score on these statewide assessments is one way to fulfill the requirements. <a href="#">Source</a>
PA	Keystone Exam in Literature	EOC	All students	No – see note	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> Gov. Wolf signed SB 880 (2016), which delays using the Keystone Exams in Literature, Algebra I and biology to graduate until the class of 2019. Previously, the stakes were to begin with class of 2017.
RI	SAT	Grade 11	Optional	No	Yes	
	PSAT	Grade 10	Optional	No	Yes	



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<b>SC</b>	End of Course Examination Program (EOCEP) in English I	EOC	All students	Score factored into course grade	No	<b>Student Stakes:</b> EOCEP examination scores count 20 percent in the calculation of the student’s final grade in gateway courses. Defined gateway courses currently include the following courses or courses with other names and activity codes in which the same academic standards are taught: Algebra 1, Intermediate Algebra, Biology 1, English 1, and United States History and the Constitution.
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
	ACT WorkKeys	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>SD</b>	Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>TN</b>	TN Ready English I EOC	EOC	All students	District option whether to factor score into course	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> S 285/HB 36 (2015) removes the requirement that grading policies of local boards of education must include student scores in a TCAP subject area as part of the student's grade in that subject area; permits a local board to have such policy if it so desires.
	TN Ready English II EOC	EOC	All students	District option whether to factor score into course	No	
	TN Ready English III EOC	EOC	All students	District option whether to factor score into course	No	
	ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
<b>TX</b>	State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) EOC in English I	EOC	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> Beginning in spring 2016, STAAR English III and Algebra II will be available for districts to administer as optional assessments.
	STAAR EOC in English II	EOC	All students	Passing score required to	No	
	STAAR EOC in English III	EOC	District Option	No	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> Beginning with the class of 2015, students must pass the STAAR EOCs in English I and English II to graduate.
<b>UT</b>	Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence (SAGE) EOC in Writing 9	EOC	All students	No	No	
	SAGE EOC in Writing 10	EOC	All students	No	No	
	SAGE EOC in Writing 11	EOC	All students	No	No	
	SAGE EOC in Reading, Language and Listening 9	EOC	All students	No	No	
	SAGE EOC in Reading, Language and Listening 10	EOC	All students	No	No	
	SAGE EOC in Reading, Language and Listening 11	EOC	All students	No	No	
ACT	Grade 11	All students	No	No		
<b>VT</b>	Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 9	All students	No	No	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> Moved from grade 11 to grade 9 in 2017-18.



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VA	Reading Standards of Learning (SOL)	EOC	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	<b>Student stakes:</b> To graduate with a Standard Diploma, students must earn at least six verified credits by passing end- of-course SOL tests or other assessments approved by the State Board of Education, which must include two verified credits in English and one verified credit in math. Students who earn an Advanced Studies Diploma must earn at least nine verified credits, including two verified credits in English and two verified credits in math.
	Writing SOL	EOC	All students	Passing score required to graduate	No	
WA	Smarter Balanced (ELA)	Grade 11	All students	See note	No	<b>Student Stakes:</b> Beginning with the class of 2019, the state will use the Smarter Balanced exam in ELA and math for graduation. <a href="#">Source</a>
WV	SAT	Grade 11	All students	No	Yes	<b>Assessment Administration:</b> The General Summative Assessment no longer uses Smarter Balanced items, and was developed by AIR.
WI	ACT Aspire Early High School	Grades 9-10	All students	No	No	
	ACT plus Writing	Grade 11	All students	No	No	
WY	Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress (WY-TOPP)	Grades 9-10	All students	No	Yes	
	ACT plus Writing	Grade 11	All students	No	No	

Source: These data are based on the Achieve’s ongoing monitoring of states’ academic standards, graduation requirements, assessments and accountability systems. Updates to the table will be made on an ongoing basis as states’ assessments and related policies evolve.