

TCAP for Grades 3–8

Overview:

Each subject-area test is divided into multiple subparts and will be administered during one testing window at the end of the school year.

English language arts (4 subparts) will assess the Tennessee Academic Standards through literary and informational texts requiring students to demonstrate the ability to read closely, analyze text, answer text-dependent questions, provide a written response to a prompt, and demonstrate command of the English language. Additionally, in grades 3 and 4, fluency, comprehension, and listening skills are measured.

Mathematics (3 subparts) will consist of both calculator permitted and calculator prohibited subparts. It assesses the Tennessee Academic Standards requiring students to demonstrate a deep conceptual understanding of mathematics, number sense, fluency, problem solving and an understanding of the grade-level horizontal coherence embedded within the standards. The mathematics test will focus approximately 70 percent of the assessment items on major work of the grade and approximately 30 percent of the items on supporting work.

Science (1 subpart in grades 3-4; 2 subparts in grades 5-8) will assess the current Tennessee Academic Standards requiring students to demonstrate a deep conceptual understanding of scientific concepts in Life Science, Earth and Space Science and Physical Science.

Social studies (1 subpart in grades 3-4; 2 subparts in grades 5-8) will assess the current Tennessee Academic Standards for social studies requiring students to demonstrate historical awareness, geographical understanding and the ability to analyze primary source documents.

Required:

Yes

Federal and State Law:

Administered in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 and T.C.A. § 49-1-602 pertaining to district and school accountability. Modified assessments in Braille and large print are also provided in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1990.

Purpose & Use:

The TCAP tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills. TCAP measures student understanding of our state standards.

Administration Window:

Districts may select a more specific testing window within the state's testing window of April 16 through May 4. However, English subpart 1, which includes a written response, must be administered in the first week.

Length of Assessment

Grade level	English	Math	Science	Social Studies
Grade 3	Subpart 1: 80 minutes Subpart 2: 43 minutes Subpart 3: 43 minutes Subpart 4: 50 minutes Total: 216 minutes	Subpart 1: 45 minutes Subpart 2: 30 minutes Subpart 3: 40 minutes Total: 115 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Total: 50 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Total: 50 minutes
Grade 4	Subpart 1: 80 minutes Subpart 2: 45 minutes Subpart 3: 45 minutes Subpart 4: 52 minutes Total: 222 minutes	Subpart 1: 45 minutes Subpart 2: 30 minutes Subpart 3: 40 minutes Total: 115 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Total: 50 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Total: 50 minutes
Grade 5	Subpart 1: 80 minutes Subpart 2: 40 minutes Subpart 3: 40 minutes Subpart 4: 40 minutes Total: 200 minutes	Subpart 1: 45 minutes Subpart 2: 30 minutes Subpart 3: 40 minutes Total: 115 minutes	Subpart 1: 48 minutes Subpart 2: 47 minutes Total: 95 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Subpart 2: 50 minutes Total: 100 minutes
Grade 6	Subpart 1: 85 minutes Subpart 2: 50 minutes Subpart 3: 50 minutes Subpart 4: 45 minutes Total: 230 minutes	Subpart 1: 40 minutes Subpart 2: 35 minutes Subpart 3: 50 minutes Total: 125 minutes	Subpart 1: 48 minutes Subpart 2: 47 minutes Total: 95 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes Subpart 2: 50 minutes Total: 100 minutes

Grade 7	Subpart 1: 85 minutes	Subpart 1: 40 minutes	Subpart 1: 48 minutes	Subpart 1: 50 minutes
	Subpart 2: 50 minutes	Subpart 2: 35 minutes	Subpart 2: 47 minutes	Subpart 2: 50 minutes
	Subpart 3: 50 minutes	Subpart 3: 50 minutes	Total: 95 minutes	Total: 100 minutes
	Subpart 4: 45 minutes	Total: 125 minutes		
	Total: 230 minutes			
Grade 8	Subpart 1: 85 minutes			Subpart 1: 50 minutes
	Subpart 2: 50 minutes			Subpart 2: 50 minutes
	Subpart 3: 50 minutes			Total: 100 minutes
	Subpart 4: 45 minutes			
	Total: 230 minutes			

Results to Districts:

Raw data is provided to districts at the very end of school year. This information may be used to help calculate final grades for report cards. State law requires TCAP scores be included as a percentage of a student's grade in grades 3–8. Districts do have the flexibility, as provided in state law, to exclude TNReady data from student grades if the data is not available at least five instructional days before the last day for students.

Results to Parents & Students:

Score reports from the 2016-17 school year for grades 3–8 were provided to districts in Nov. 2017 to distribute to parents.

Score reports from the 2017-18 school year for grades 3–8 will be provided to districts in fall 2018 to distribute to parents.