



State Testing Information

Students at South Carolina Connections Academy are required to participate in all mandatory district and state assessments. More information about required testing, including specific locations, dates and times, will be webmailed in Pearson Online Classroom to impacted families throughout the year. Failure to attend required testing could result in immediate withdrawal or ineligibility to return next school year. ***Please note, all dates and locations are subject to change***

Test Name	Who and What?	When and Where?	Optional or Required
STAR Renaissance Benchmarks	Math and Reading benchmarks are required 3 times a year for students in K-11 grade. Benchmark results will be examined alongside other student data to identify students needing more intensive targeted instruction in math and reading.	STAR testing is administered 3 times a year - Fall (August), Winter (December) and Spring (April). STAR testing is typically administered in a Live Lesson room with a teacher proctoring during the testing window. Some grade levels will be required to take benchmarks in person.	Required for identified students
Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)	All students in Kindergarten to measure a child's school readiness	KRA must be given within the first 45 days of the school year. KRA is administered at sites throughout the state typically in August	Required
WIDA Screener	All new students in grades K-12 who are determined to have limited English proficiency, based upon the completion of a Home Language Survey	The WIDA Screener must be completed within the first 30 days of the school year for new students. If a student enrolls after the first 30 days, they must be tested within 14 school days. Locations will be determined based on the identified students needing to test	Required for identified students
Gifted and Talented Assessments - CogAt and Iowa	All students in 2nd Grade to measure a child's aptitude and achievement.	CogAt and Iowa are untimed tests that are administered over 3 days. They will be administered at sites throughout the state in typically October.	Required
PSAT	The PSAT is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Available to students in Grades 8 (with qualifying SC Ready Scores), 10th and 11th graders. PSAT scores are used for eligibility into the Junior Scholars Program for 8th graders.	The College Board sets the date for the PSAT each year, typically in October. The PSAT is typically administered in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, Florence, Lexington and Myrtle Beach.	Optional
Fall SC Career Readiness Assessment (WIN)	The SC Career Readiness Assessment measures a student's career readiness in four areas: Math, Reading, Data, and Soft Skills. The Fall test date is only for students in their	The Fall SC Career Readiness Assessment is typically given in October/November. It is typically administered in Charleston,	Required for identified students

	4th year of high school that did not score qualifying scores in their 3rd year. Students are only required to test in the area that they did not meet a qualifying score.	Columbia, Greenville, Florence, Lexington and Myrtle Beach.	
ACCESS for ELLs	Any student who is identified as an English Language Learner to determine English proficiency.	ACCESS Testing takes place typically in January or February. Locations will be determined based on the identified students needing to test	Required for identified students
Gifted and Talented Assessments – Performance Tasks Assessments	Students identified by the state in grades 2-5	PTA is typically administered in February and March at sites throughout the state.	Optional
College Entrance Assessments (ACT or SAT)	Students in their 3rd year of high school will be offered the opportunity to take one assessment. Students may choose to take either the SAT or ACT at no cost.	ACT and SAT dates are set by their parent companies. The tests are typically fall in February or March. The ACT and SAT are typically administered in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville and Lexington.	Optional
South Carolina Alternate Assessments (SC-Alt)	SC-Alt is an assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities who are assessed against alternate achievement standards as they are unable to participate in the general assessment program even with appropriate accommodations.	SC-Alt is typically administered in March. Locations will be determined based on the identified students needing to test	Required for identified students
Spring SC Career Readiness Assessment (WIN)	The SC Career Readiness Assessment measures a student's career readiness in four areas: Math, Reading, Data, and Soft Skills. The Spring test date is required for all students in their 3rd year of high school and any 4th year high school students who have not met qualifying scores.	The Spring SC Career Readiness Assessment is typically given in April. It is administered in various sites throughout the state.	Required
SC Ready	All students in Grades 3-8. Students will take an assessment in Reading, Writing, and Math. Grades 4 and 6 will take an assessment in Science.	SC Ready occurs in Late April/Early May. The test is administered in various sites throughout the state.	Required
End of Course Examination (EOC)	EOC exams are for any student taking certain high school courses (English 2, Algebra 1, Intermediate Algebra, Biology, US History). The exam counts as 20% of the student's final grade in the course.	EOC testing occurs in the semester the course is completed. Fall courses will test in December and Spring courses will test in May. The test is administered in various sites throughout the state.	Required
Advanced Placement (AP) Exams	Students taking AP courses have the option to take the AP exam to earn college credit.	The College Board sets the testing dates each year. Testing will occur only in our school office in Columbia.	Optional

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