Math and Biology End-of-Course Exams Policies

In spring 2011, Superintendent Randy Dorn’s proposed legislation on math (House Bill 1412) and science (House Bill 1410) was signed into law, changing the math and science assessment graduation requirements.

The laws have the following impact on students:

- **Classes of 2013 and 2014:** To satisfy the assessment portion of the graduation requirements, students must pass one math End-of-Course (EOC) exam in either algebra 1 or geometry (or the integrated math equivalents).

  If the exam is not passed, students should continue to retake it until they do pass, or meet the requirement through a Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA) Option. This year’s 11th and 12th graders do not need to take a biology EOC, even if they are enrolled in biology.

- **Class of 2015 and beyond:** To satisfy the assessment portion of the graduation requirements, students must pass three EOC exams: two math EOC exams in both algebra 1 and geometry (or the integrated math equivalents), and one in biology.

  If one or more exams are not passed, students should continue to retake them until they do pass, or meet the requirements through CAA Options.

EOCs measure the knowledge of students when they reach the end of their coursework in math and science, and serve as the state’s exit exams in those subjects. EOC testing occurs during the last three weeks of a semester (winter and spring).

**Non-semester scheduling note:** Trimesters and special block schedules do not always match the winter and spring state testing windows for EOCs. Students enrolled in these classes might complete their coursework before or after state testing windows. These students can choose to sit for their EOC either during winter or spring administration—or both. If a student sits for the exam twice, the higher of the two scores will be included in the final record.

**Science note:** Current 10th graders who have not previously passed the biology EOC are required to take the biology EOC in spring 2013, whether or not they are taking biology. This meets the federal Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) requirement to test 10th graders in science.
**Math note:** Algebra and integrated 1 exams are referenced as “Year 1” math EOC. Geometry and integrated 2 exams are referenced as “Year 2” math EOC.

**Current 10th graders or below (Class of 2015 and beyond)**

Students who take a math EOC in 7th or 8th grade must also take the math Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) to satisfy the AMO requirement.

Students who take the biology EOC in 8th grade must also take the 8th-grade science MSP to satisfy the AMO requirement.

Students who take an EOC in (or before) 9th grade will have their EOC score “banked” to satisfy their 10th-grade AMO requirement if they pass the exam. That means they will not have to take that EOC again once they reach 10th grade.

**MATHEMATICS (2 EOCs required)**

Students who take an algebra 1/integrated math 1 course in 2012–13 will take the Year 1 math EOC in spring 2013.

Students who take a geometry/integrated math 2 course in 2012–13 will take the Year 2 math EOC in spring 2013.

- **Students who do not pass** the Year 1 and/or Year 2 math EOC must continue to take them until they do pass (or move on to CAA Options), to be eligible for graduation. This could mean taking the Year 1 and Year 2 math EOC at the same time.

Tenth graders who have not yet taken an algebra 1/integrated math 1 or geometry/integrated math 2 course by 2012–13 will take the Year 1 math EOC to satisfy AMO and graduation requirements in spring 2013.

**SCIENCE (1 EOC required)**

Students who take a biology course in 2012–13 will take the biology EOC in spring 2013.

- **Students who do not pass** the biology EOC must continue to take it until they do pass (or move on to a CAA Option), to be eligible for graduation.

Tenth graders who have not yet taken a biology course by 2012–13 will take the biology EOC to satisfy AMO and graduation requirements in spring 2013.
Current 11th and 12th graders (Classes of 2013 and 2014)

MATH (1 EOC required)

Students who take an algebra 1/integrated math 1 course in 2012–13 will take the Year 1 math EOC in spring 2013.

Students who take a geometry/integrated math 2 course in 2012–13 will take the Year 2 math EOC in spring 2013, unless they have already passed a math EOC.

- **Students who do not pass** the Year 1 or Year 2 math EOC must continue to take it until they do pass (or move on to CAA Options), to be eligible for graduation.

Students who do not take an algebra 1 or geometry (or the integrated math equivalents) course in 2012–13 will take the Year 1 or Year 2 math EOC in winter or spring 2013, unless they have already passed a math EOC.

SCIENCE (No EOC required)

Students are not required to take the biology EOC.

Repeating 12th graders (Class of 2012)

MATH (One state math exam required)

Students who have passed a state math exam do not need to take an EOC.

Students in an algebra 1 or geometry (or the integrated math equivalents) course can pass a math EOC to meet the math assessment graduation requirement.

Students who do not have a “valid attempt” on the math HSPE or EOC must take an EOC in winter or spring 2013 in order to be eligible to graduate.

- **Students who have a valid attempt but do not pass** a state math exam may, instead, earn two credits of math after 10th grade (or move on to a CAA Option), to be eligible for graduation.

SCIENCE (No state science exam required)

Students are not required to take the biology EOC.

Questions? Please contact your school or district.