



As our high schools continue operating under remote learning for students, or Plan C, it is important for parents and guardians to understand that students are required per state and federal law to complete End-of-Course (EOC) testing and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Post Assessment testing. A complete list of the impacted courses is provided at the end of this letter.

The Chatham County Schools Testing and Accountability team is working with administrators at the school and district levels to prepare high schools for first semester testing. Our administrators have been communicating with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) about State Board of Education policies, as well as reviewing state statutes regarding student testing. **Currently, there is no waiver for state-mandated testing during the 2020-21 school year. State law requires the EOC and CTE Post Assessments to count as 20% of the final grade in high school courses. In compliance with policy for state testing, students who do not take final exams will receive final exam grades of 0%.** The score of 0% will also impact the school and district accountability results if the student does not test.

Every school district must administer all state-required assessments in a district facility within the last 10 days of the semester. The in-facility requirement for state-mandated testing applies to all students. Students are required to return to a school building for testing. Students and families do not have the option to opt out of these state-mandated tests.

**For the fall semester state-mandated testing, Chatham County Schools will use “incomplete” as a temporary placeholder for the final course grade for students unable to participate in on-campus testing.** Students will be invited to test during the spring and/or summer testing windows. **Prior to June 30, 2021, students who do not take the state-mandated tests will receive a final exam grade of 0% in compliance with the state-testing policy.**

Students interested in athletics during the second semester should consider the implications of receiving an incomplete for state-mandated exams. Per North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), a student receiving an incomplete causing him or her to fail to meet minimum NCHSAA eligibility requirements is ineligible to participate in athletics for that semester until the state-mandated exam is completed.

Also, students with a driver's permit or license should consider the implications of receiving an incomplete for state-mandated exams. Following statewide guidelines, students who are not passing 50% or more of scheduled classes are in jeopardy of having the driver's permit or license revoked until the state-mandated exam is completed.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff is our priority. Chatham County Schools is adhering to protocols and requirements established by the Department of Public Instruction related to the pandemic. Students participating in state-mandated exams can expect a testing environment that is clean and safe. Details about that are in the [Reopening Guidebook for Students, Parents, and Guardians](#).

Students will receive information from the school about testing dates and schedules. Following is the complete list of fall semester courses with state-mandated exams:

#### EOC state-required testing

- Biology
- Math 1
- Math 3
- English 10

#### CTE state-required testing

- Animal Science II-Small Animal
- Horticulture II
- Horticulture II Landscaping
- Accounting I
- Principles of Business and Finance
- Marketing Applications
- Sports and Entertainment Marketing I
- Sports and Entertainment Marketing II
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Fashion Merchandising
- Career Management
- Apparel and Textile Production I
- Apparel and Textile Production II
- Child Development
- Food and Nutrition I
- Food and Nutrition II
- Biomedical Technology
- Foundations of Health Science
- Health Science I