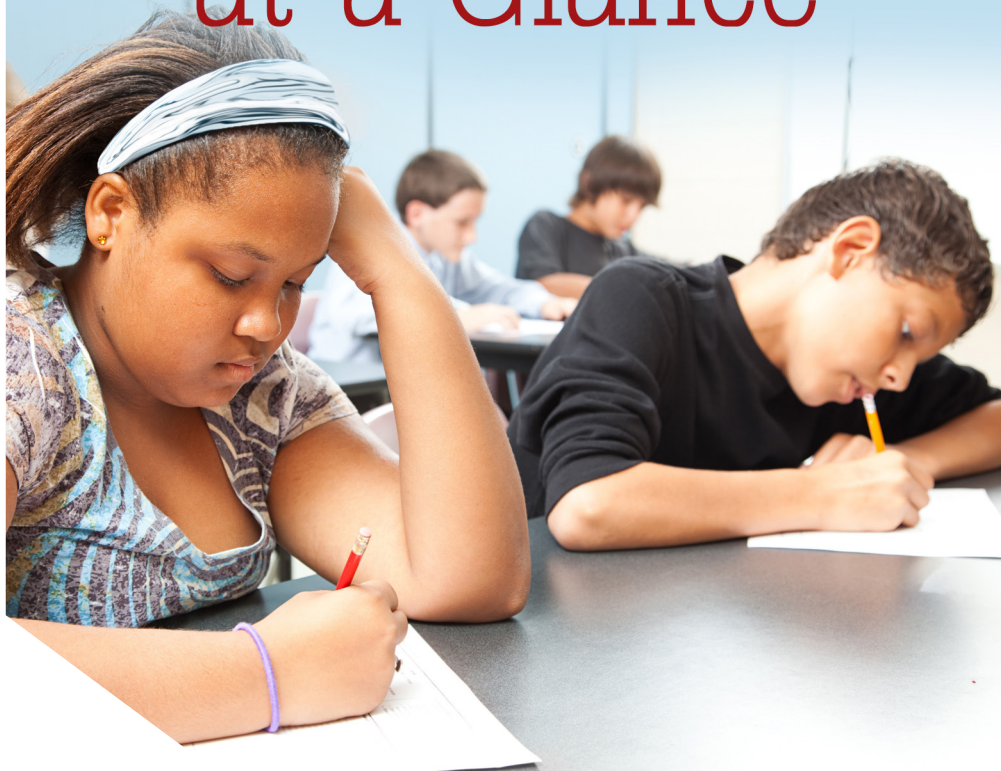


MOVING OUR STUDENTS FORWARD

NEW STATE STANDARDS AND TESTING



TN Ready Paper Testing at a Glance





What is TN Ready?

TN Ready is a new state-mandated assessment designed to measure students' understanding of subject matter, not just memorization and basic test-taking skills.

Why is the State mandating a new type of test?

TN Ready is the new way of assessing students, measuring real understanding of the material. It gives your child multiple ways to show what they know and can do with rigorous, open-ended questions.

How is the format of questions on TN Ready different from previous TCAP Achievement and End of Course test questions?

TN Ready is aligned to TNCORE and expected to be more rigorous than the previous tests. The estimated time for TN Ready includes 25-50 percent more time per question than on TCAP for English and math to ensure that all students have plenty of time to answer each test question.

Will the test format cause a change in my child's performance?

The rigorous question format is expected to result in lower test scores initially. State officials say that in the long run, your child will be learning at a more rapid rate.

Why is TN Ready using paper testing instead of an online platform?

Due to serious technical issues with the online platform on the first day of testing, in an effort to protect our students' instructional time and better ensure they have a positive test experience, the Tennessee Department of Education decided to move all students to a paper-and-pencil version of TN Ready for both Part I and Part II for the rest of this school year.

Does the paper test differ from the online test?

No, TN Ready is still TN Ready. Paper testing has always been a secondary testing option for schools and is aligned with the State standards. In order to ensure test security, the paper version cannot be an exact copy of the online assessment. There are multiple forms and versions of both the online and paper forms. Each grade and content area will have multiple paper versions across Part I and Part II. Questions on all versions of the test have gone through the same item review process, and all test forms have the same common/linking items to ensure scoring comparability.

There is no inherent advantage or disadvantage if a student has already completed TN Ready online.

When is the new testing window for Part I?

Part I will be available for administration for grades 3–8 and high schools on traditional schedules during a three-week window, Feb. 22–March 11. Part I for high schools on block schedules will be available April 18–29. Districts must pick five consecutive days within the window to complete testing. The exact testing dates for Shelby County Schools are still to be determined and will be provided to parents as soon as possible.

Do districts still have a flexible testing window to administer the paper test?

Because TN Ready will now be administered via paper-and-pencil, districts will be required to follow a more structured schedule to ensure test security. As in previous years, districts will have to schedule one subject to be taken in one day across the entire district. Districts will no longer be able to make school-by-school scheduling decisions.

What if a student completed all or a portion of Part I online on February 8?

Students who were able to complete a test will not be re-tested in that area; however, any student who was only able to partially complete the test will have to start over with a paper version when available.

How has the District been preparing students?

TN Ready practice tests were administered in October and January. Also, throughout the school year, teachers, parents and students have access to MICA, a website that contains sample questions.

How does the transition to paper-and-pencil affect social studies?

Because the social studies test in grades 3-11 was originally scheduled to given on the MIST platform, in light of recent events, the social studies test will also be given via paper and pencil.

Where can parents access sample questions and practice materials for TN Ready?

Although student will be using paper and pencil, parents can still access practice questions for math and English language arts by grade level on the MICA platform online at support.micatime.com.

How will students with disabilities or ELL students be accommodated during TN Ready?

Please see the Testing Conditions and Accommodations chart provided by the State [here](#).

How can we be sure that our students are being consistently held to Tennessee standards?

Part of the purpose of TN Ready is to align the state assessment with the higher standards we now have for our students. This alignment had been lacking in previous assessments. TN Ready will provide key feedback on how students are performing against this set of expectations and ensure all our students are on the path to success in college, career, and life.

How do we know that the scoring of the assessment will be consistent and fair?

It is critical that TNReady results be dependable. Rigorous quality assurance and monitoring standards have been developed to ensure that scorers perform accurately and reliably, and there is a constant conversation with scorers and scoring leadership to make sure all students are graded consistently and fairly. In addition to training and constant scorer evaluation and support, scoring directors and team leaders read behind, or spot check, each scorer every day to monitor accuracy and conduct one-on-one retraining sessions when necessary.

**Some FAQs have been taken and modified from TDOE documents.*