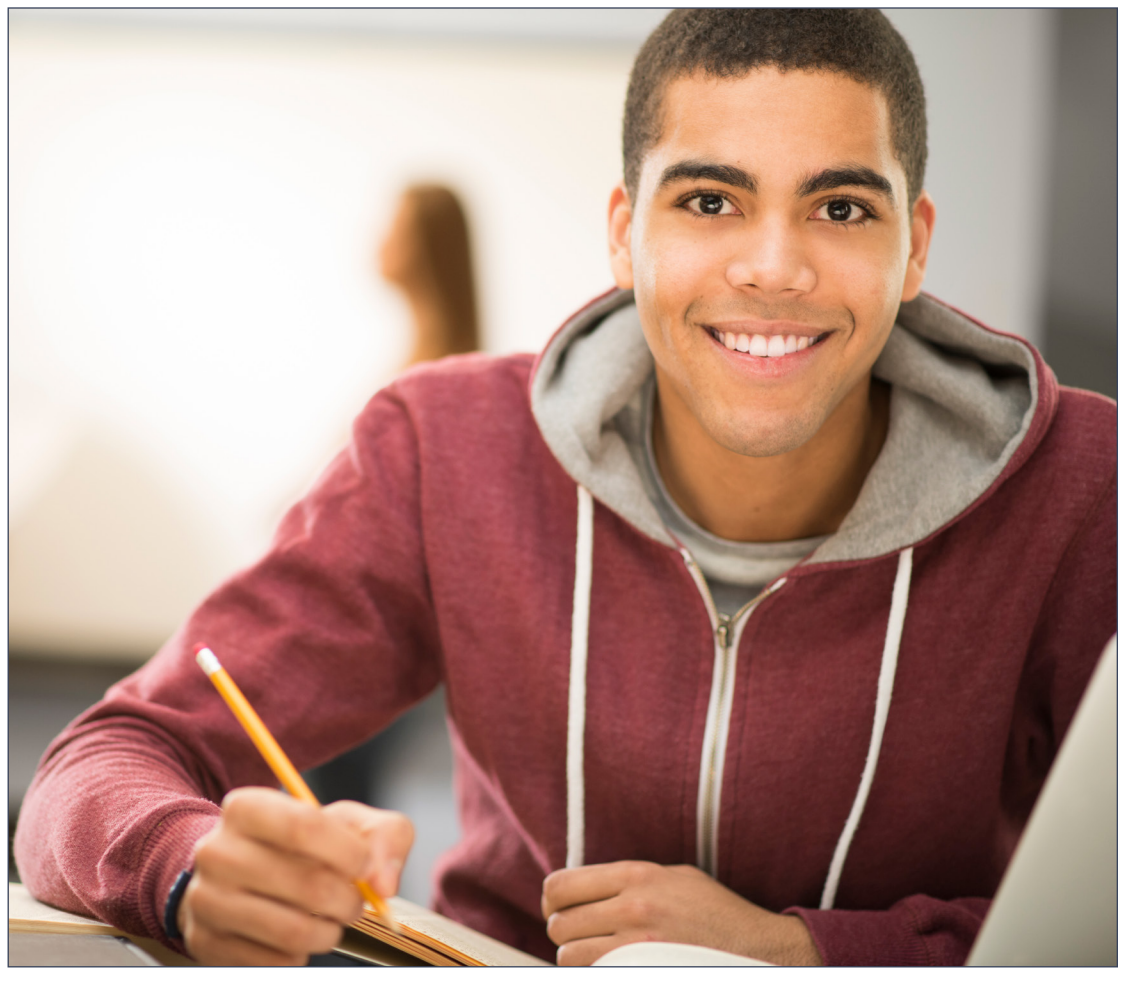
South Carolina EOCEP
Brochure for Parents and High School Students

Overview

- The End-of-Course Examination Program (EOCEP) is a statewide assessment program of end-of-course tests for high school courses that teach the South Carolina (SC) standards for English 2, Algebra 1, Biology 1, and United States History and the Constitution.
- EOCEP examination scores account for 20 percent in the calculation of the student's final grade in these courses.
- The EOCEP tests measure what students have been learning all year in these subjects. The test questions are aligned to the South Carolina academic standards. The standards for all four subjects are posted at **https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards/**.
- EOCEP tests are not timed, but each test must be completed within one school day.
- The online testing system has built-in calculator and graphing tools that students use on the Algebra 1 and Biology 1 tests. All handheld calculators must meet the requirements of the EOCEP Requirements for Calculator Use, which is available at **https://ed.sc.gov/tests/high/eocep/**.
- To earn a South Carolina high school diploma, students are required to pass a biology and a U.S. history course in which the state's EOCEP tests are administered.
- Students with disabilities must take these tests with appropriate accommodations as required by their IEPs or 504 Plans, except those who are eligible to participate in the South Carolina Alternate Assessments (SC-Alt). The SC-Alt tests assess students with significant cognitive disabilities. Information related to accommodations for students with disabilities is available at the following link: **https://ed.sc.gov/tests/assessment-information/testing-swd/**.
- ML students must participate in EOCEP testing using the appropriate accommodations, if specified by their ILAPs.
- The English 2, Algebra 1, and Biology 1 EOCEP tests are administered to ALL high school students to meet federal accountability requirements.

Test Format

- The EOCEP tests are administered in a computer-based online format only. Students who cannot take online assessments may be tested in a paper-based format as specified by their IEPs, 504 Plans, or ILAPs.
- The English 2 tests have two sections that are administered separately, a Writing section and a Reading section. The Writing section includes a Text-Dependent Writing (TDW) question. The TDW question consists of a passage with a writing prompt related to that specific passage. The prompt requires that students analyze the text and write an essay to provide supporting evidence from the passage.
- The Algebra 1, Biology 1, U.S. History and the Constitution, and English 2–Reading tests consist of machine-scored questions including technology-enhanced, technology-enhanced constructed response, and stimulus sets. Technology-enhanced questions require students to respond on the computer in different ways.





Tutorials and Online Tools Training (OTT)

- The Online Assessments Tutorial is a set of videos that provide step-by-step instructions on how to navigate the online testing system and gives detailed explanations about the key features of the software. The tutorials should be reviewed by students in advance of their first test day.
- The Online Tools Training (OTT) is a computer module that simulates the testing environment and allows students an opportunity to try out the testing software and tools prior to the administration of EOCEP tests. Samples of all types of questions used on the tests are included in the OTT.
- The OTT and Online Assessments Tutorial for EOCEP can be accessed at the following website (using Google Chrome): **https://portal.te.drcedirect.com/SC**.

Score Reports

- Student results are reported as scale scores and letter grades that correspond to performance levels (for example, Exceeds, Meets, Minimally Meets, and Does Not Meet) for each test. The scale scores range between 0 and 100 but do not equal the percentage of correct answers. For each test, student performance is also reported in categories that correspond to the academic standards as "Low," "Middle," or "High."
- Paper copies of Individual Student Reports are shipped to school districts. Districts are responsible for ensuring that these reports are distributed to parents and schools as soon as possible following receipt.

Other Resources

- Students who are scheduled to take EOCEP tests shall be provided with paper or electronic copies of the academic standards no later than the first day of school.
- Sample test questions, test blueprints, and state test-window dates are available on the EOCEP webpage at **https://ed.sc.gov/tests/assessment-information/quick-links-for-teachers/**.