

Parents' Guide to the New York State Testing Program

Why do we have an annual statewide test in grades 3-8?

- New York State's annual English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests are designed to measure how well students are mastering the learning standards that guide classroom instruction and to ensure students are on track to graduate from high school with the critical thinking, problem solving, and reasoning skills needed for success in today's world.
- The federal Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 requires students in grades 3-8 are tested once a year in ELA and Math. Additionally, students in grades 4 and 8 will take the New York State Science Test. Students enrolled in the Grade 7 Science Accelerated course will be eligible to take the Grade 8 Science Assessment.
- The New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) is designed to annually assess the English language proficiency of all English Language Learners (ELLs) enrolled in Grades K–12 in New York State schools.

What are the dates for the 2022-2023 tests?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ELA 7/8 – April 19-21, 2022• Math 7/8 – May 2-4, 2022• Science 8 (Performance) - May 23-June 2, 2022• Science 8 (Written) – June 5, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NYSESLAT (Speaking) - April 17-May 26, 2022• NYSESLAT (Listening, Reading, Writing)- May 15-26, 2022
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What types of questions are asked on the tests?

- The tests include both multiple choice and open-ended questions, which assess grade level learning standards. The questions require students to apply their knowledge and explain reasoning. Students will read complex texts, write well-reasoned responses, and solve real-world problems, all of which provide the foundation for necessary skills to practice and master to succeed in college and careers.
- Test questions are released by New York State, which can be viewed on www.nysedregents.org

How long are the tests?

- ELA and Math Tests are 2 days each, with unlimited time.
- Science Test has two components. The Performance Test is given during your child's regularly scheduled science class. The Written Test is 1 day, with 2 hours of seat time.
- NYSESLAT test has two components. The Speaking test is a one on one test with a teacher that lasts about 15-20 minutes. The Listening/Reading/Writing is 3 sessions estimated at 55 minutes of seat time per session.

Why is it important for my child to take these tests?

- These tests provide teachers and schools with information that can be used to guide their instruction, class planning and help them to understand how well students are progressing in the skills and concepts being taught in the classroom.
- Results from the tests also help identify achievement gaps among different student populations. Without widespread participation on the tests, it is more difficult for school and district leaders to recognize these gaps and provide support and resources to the students who need them.

Resource Links for Parents:

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/parentbrochurenextgen.pdf>

<http://www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed/nysitell-and-nyseslat-parent-guides>

Questions? Please contact:

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