



## Is my child required to test? State and Federal Laws Require Assessments

Requirements for testing students in Arkansas are outlined in federal law 107-110, commonly referred to as No Child Left Behind, and state laws: A.C.A. § 6-15-404, § 6-15-433, and § 6-15-2009. Arkansas has chosen to participate in the PARCC assessment for math and

ELA/Literacy grades 3-10.

Districts are required to test 95% of the students or risk loss of federal funds. Schools depend upon federal funding to provide a quality education to students in Arkansas. When students do not participate in the assessment they do

not count in a school's 95% tested. Therefore, not participating in the assessment does put your child's school at risk of losing their federal funding, which they rely upon to function.

## HOW MANY DAYS WILL MY CHILD TEST?

The chart to the right outlines the testing times allotted for all PARCC assessments. It is important to remember that schools that are testing on the computer have the freedom to schedule their sessions in a way that best accommodates their school schedule. Students can be tested in the morning and/or afternoon and may take more than one unit per day, as long as the assessment is completed within the allotted window.

Notice the total testing times allowed. Most students will finish before this time is complete; however, they will be allowed the total time if needed. If students finish early they may be allowed to read. If an entire testing group finishes early, they may be released back to class. The district has the freedom to make decisions about allowing reading materials and releasing students back to class before the allotted time is finished.

## WHY IS MY CHILD REQUIRED TO TEST?

State testing provides schools useful data to guide instruction of students. Scores can be used to inform decisions about student placement and remediation needs.

Arkansas law § 6-15-2009 (b) (1) states that "Each student identified as not meeting the satisfactory pass levels in the immediate previously administered benchmark assessment shall participate in the remediation activities as required in the student's individualized academic improvement plan (AIP) beginning in the school year the assessment results are reported." Those who do not participate in the remediation outlined in the AIP "shall be retained" in grades 3- 8 or be denied credit for the corresponding course in grades 9-12. If your child does not take the assessment, then he or she will be assigned an AIP, which will outline remediation activities required by your district.

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)		
Spring 2015 Testing Times		
	Performance-Based Assessment (PBA)	End of Year (EOY)
	Administration Window*	Administration Window*
	March 9 - March 20; March 30 - April 10	April 27 - May 22
Grade 3	ELA: 3 units - 210 minutes	ELA: 1 unit - 75 minutes
	Math: 2 units - 150 minutes	Math: 2 units - 150 minutes
	Total time: 6 hours	Total time: 3 hours 45 minutes
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 9 hours 45 minutes</b>	
Grades 4 and 5	ELA: 3 units - 225 minutes	ELA: 1 unit - 75 minutes
	Math: 2 units - 150 minutes	Math: 2 units - 150 minutes
	Total time: 6 hours 15 minutes	Total time: 3 hours 45 minutes
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 10 hours</b>	
Grades 6, 7 and 8	ELA: 3 units - 225 minutes	ELA: 2 units - 120 minutes
	Math: 2 units - 150 minutes	Math: 2 units - 155 minutes
	Total time: 6 hours 15 minutes	Total time: 4 hours 35 minutes
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 10 hours 50 minutes</b>	
Grades 9, 10 and 11	ELA: 3 units - 225 minutes	ELA: 2 units - 120 minutes
	Total time: 3 hours 45 minutes	Total time: 2 hours
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 5 hours 45 minutes</b>	
Algebra I and Geometry	2 units - 165 minutes	2 units - 155 minutes
	Total time: 2 hours 45 minutes	Total time: 2 hours 35 minutes
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 5 hours 20 minutes</b>	
Algebra II	2 units - 165 minutes	2 units - 165 minutes
	Total time: 2 hours 45 minutes	Total time: 2 hours 45 minutes
	<b>Total Time Allowed: 5 hours 30 minutes</b>	