

SCPASS 2016 Test Schedule

Grades 4–8	Paper/Pencil Administration	Online Administration
Science	May 11 (Wednesday)	May 11–May 27
Social Studies	May 12 (Thursday)	May 11–May 27
Make-up Testing	Through May 19	

Links to Additional Information

More detailed information about SCPASS is located on the South Carolina Department of Education Web site at:

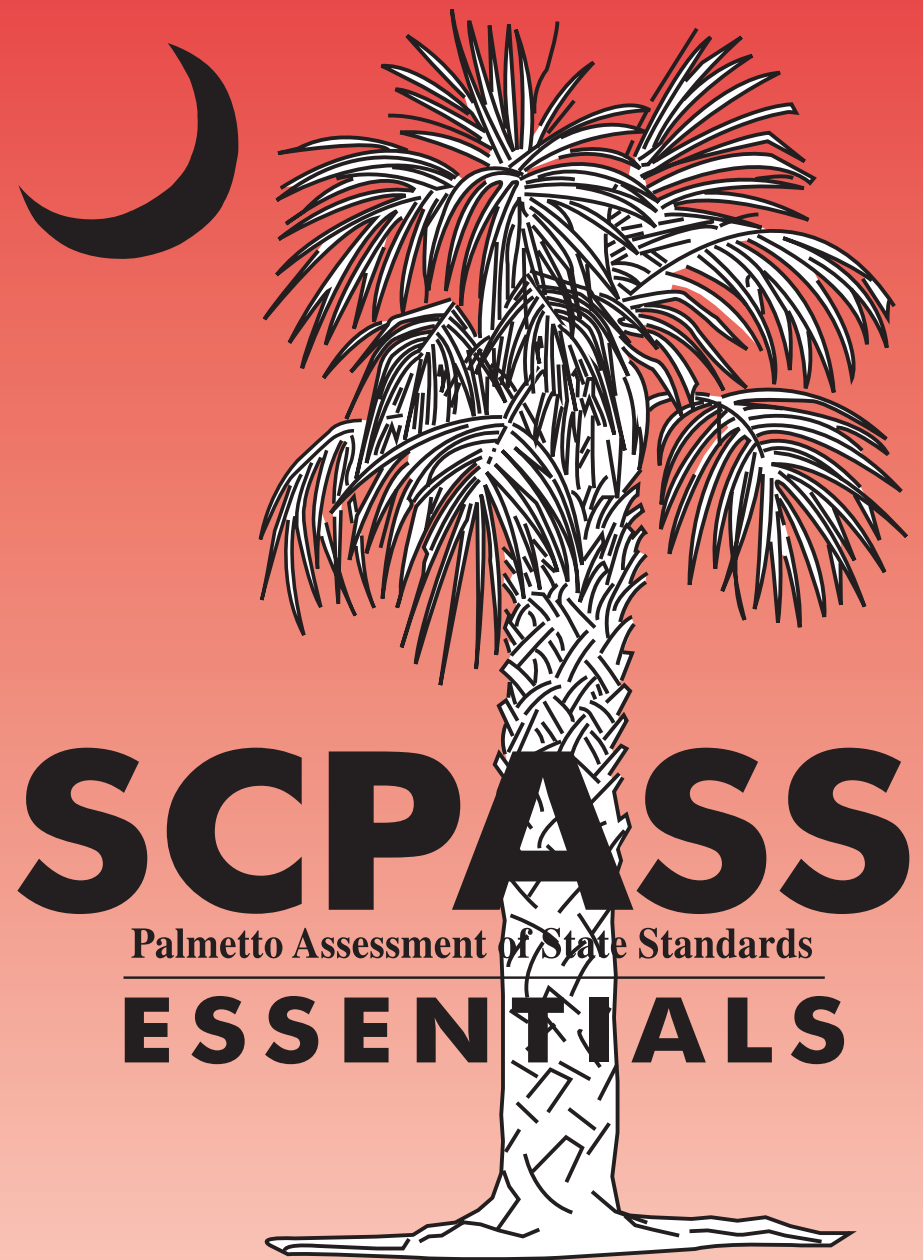
<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/>.

For more information on SCPASS science, visit:

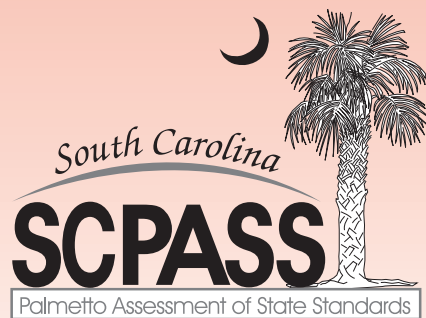
<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/scpass-test-blueprints/scpass-science/>.

For more information on SCPASS social studies, visit:

<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/scpass-test-blueprints/scpass-social-studies/>.



A Brochure for Students and Parents



The South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) is a statewide assessment in science and social studies administered to South Carolina students in grades four through eight.



Participation Essentials

- ◆ All students in grades 4–8 must participate in the SCPASS science and social studies tests.
- ◆ Students in the *third grade are not tested* in science and social studies.
- ◆ Students with disabilities must participate in SCPASS with the appropriate accommodations, if necessary, or in the South Carolina Alternate Assessment (SC-Alt). The SC-Alt assesses students with significant cognitive disabilities.
- ◆ English language learners (ELLs) must also participate in the SCPASS science and social studies tests with the appropriate accommodations, if necessary.

Test Essentials

- ◆ SCPASS science items are aligned with the 2005 South Carolina Science Academic Standards.
- ◆ SCPASS social studies items are aligned with the 2011 South Carolina Social Studies Academic Standards.
- ◆ SCPASS science and social studies tests will be administered online (computer-based) or with paper-and-pencil.
- ◆ Science and social studies tests *are not timed*.
- ◆ Science and social studies tests contain test questions with varying degrees of difficulty.



Score Essentials

- ◆ Student results are given as scale scores and performance levels for each test.
- ◆ Performance levels for each test are: Exemplary, Met, and Not Met.
- ◆ Students receive information for each standard on each test.

Parent Tips

Remember that tests are not perfect measures of what your child can do and that they are only one part of your child's education.

Before the test:

- Encourage your child to read as much as possible.
- Assist your child with homework.
- Ensure your child completes all homework assignments.
- Help your child have a positive attitude towards education.
- Communicate with your child's teacher.
- Be supportive of your child's efforts on the tests.
- Encourage rest and exercise as these are important activities to boost your child's focus and energy.

On test day, make sure your child:

- gets a good night's sleep before the test;
- eats a healthy breakfast;
- gets to school on time;
- takes any supplies or tools needed for the test; and
- does not have doctor or dental appointments during the testing period.



Sample Items

Science—Grade 7

A patient had trouble breathing during exercise. His doctor examined him and wrote these statements in his chart.

- The patient complains of difficulty breathing during exercise.
- During the office visit, the patient was wheezing.
- The patient most likely has asthma.
- The condition will be treated with an inhaling medication.

Which statement is an inference, but not a prediction?

- A. The patient complains of difficulty breathing during exercise.
- B. During the office visit, the patient was wheezing.
- C. The patient most likely has asthma.
- D. The condition will be treated with an inhaling medication.

Key = C



Social Studies—Grade 5

Use these facts about basketball to answer the question.

- In 1891, Dr. James Naismith invented the game of basketball while teaching school in Massachusetts.
- In 2008, teams from 74 countries competed in basketball for the Summer Olympics.

Which term **best** explains these facts?

- A. cultural exchange
- B. political cooperation
- C. economic independence
- D. educational achievement

Key = A

