



## Office of Assessment and Accountability

**Dear Parents or Guardians,**

Students in grades three through eight will be assessed in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies in the upcoming weeks. This letter is intended to help you understand more about the SC Ready and SCPASS assessments and provide helpful tips to prepare your student for testing.

As always, we welcome your questions concerning these assessments or any other aspect of your child's educational program. Please contact your child's school or the Colleton County School District's Office of Assessment.

### **What is SC READY?**

SC READY is a statewide assessment given in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. SC READY is administered to all students in grades three through eight. These assessments are not timed. The ELA assessment is given over a two-day period. The first session includes a variety of questions and a Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA) question. This TDA question consists of a writing task based on a reading passage. The second session includes reading passages with accompanying questions.

The mathematics test for students in grades six through eight is administered in two sections. Both sections are taken on the same day. The first section is a "calculator" section; the second section is a "no calculator" section. Students are allowed to use the online calculator only during the calculator section of the grades six through eight mathematics section. Calculators are not allowed for students in grades three through five on the math assessment.

All SC READY assessments will be administered via the computer, except for some students with an IEP or 504.

### **What is SCPASS?**

The South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) is a statewide assessment given in science and social studies. Students in grades four, six, and eight will participate in the science assessment while students in grades five and seven will participate in the social studies assessment.

All SCPASS assessments will be administered via the computer, except for some students with an IEP or 504.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Students may not be in the possession of any electronic device that can be used for communicating, recording, timing, creating images, or storing images. These devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, media players, electronic players, headphones, smart watches (Apple Watch), stop watches, electronic translators, Fitbits, or any other imaging or photographic device. Schools have procedures in place to collect these devices

during testing. All devices must be collected before students begin testing and are returned only after all students in the test session have completed the test.

### Disruptions

If you must sign out your child early, you are highly encouraged to do so only after the testing session has been completed for the day. If at all possible, please limit health-related appointments during the testing window. We encourage and ask that students arrive to school on time.

### Testing Schedule

Grade Level	Test	Subject	Test Date	Types of Items
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	ELA Session 1	Tuesday, May 14, 2019	Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA) question, Reading Passages and questions
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	ELA Session 2	Wednesday, May 15, 2019	Selected Response, Multi-Select, Technology-Enhanced Items*
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	Math	Thursday, May 16, 2019	Selected Response, Multi-Select, Short Answer, Technology-Enhanced Items*
4 <sup>th</sup>	SCPASS	Science	Friday, May 17, 2019	Multiple-Choice, Multi-Select, and Technology-Enhanced Items
5 <sup>th</sup>	SCPASS	Social Studies	Friday, May 17, 2019	Multiple-Choice, Multi-Select, and Technology-Enhanced Items
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	ELA Session 1	Tuesday, May 21, 2019	Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA) question, Reading Passages and questions
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	ELA Session 2	Wednesday, May 22, 2019	Selected Response, Multi-Select, Technology-Enhanced Items*
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	SC READY	Math	Thursday, May 23, 2019	Selected Response, Multi-Select, Short Answer, Technology-Enhanced Items*
6 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup>	SCPASS	Science	Friday, May 24, 2019	Multiple-Choice, Multi-Select, and Technology-Enhanced Items
7 <sup>th</sup>	SCPASS	Social Studies	Friday, May 24, 2019	Multiple-Choice, Multi-Select, and Technology-Enhanced Items

\* SC READY/SCPASS assessments will begin by 8:00 a.m. for grades three through five and by 9:00 a.m. for grades six through eight. Makeup testing will be conducted throughout the day, as time permits.

\*Technology-enhanced items included items such as drag and drop, hot spot, drop-down list, and constructed response.

### Make-up Testing

SC Ready/ SCPASS make-up test will be administered for grades three through five during May 20-June 7.

SC Ready/ SCPASS make-up test will be administered for grades six through eight during May 28-June 7.

### Strategies and Tips to help Prepare your Child

The Night Before Testing	The Morning of Testing
Talk to your child about concerns they may have about the test.	Start your day as you normally do.
Your family should relax and enjoy the evening.	Provide your child with a healthy breakfast.
Your child needs to go to bed on time.	Encourage your child to have a positive attitude and do his/her best on the test.
Your child should not go to bed upset or angry.	Ensure that your child is at school and on time every day during testing.
Your child should get a full night of sleep.	Ensure that your child brings his prescription glasses to school every day during testing, if applicable.