



ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE PREPARED

In 2010, Oregon adopted higher K-12 standards in English Language Arts and Math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success beyond high school. Because we raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, we have also changed the way we measure student progress through our state tests, known as Smarter Balanced.

How much time do the tests take?

The tests are not timed so your child can take as long as he or she needs to fully demonstrate what he or she knows and can do. With our new exams, your child only tests once each year, unlike our previous exams which many students took multiple times. Learn more about the estimated time your child may take to complete the tests on Page 35 of Oregon’s Test Administration Manual: <http://tinyurl.com/TestAdminManual>.

What do the results mean and where do I get my child’s results?

Test results identify your child’s strengths and areas for improvement in English Language Arts and Math. Each subject will be broken into categories and will show how well your child performed in each area. The tests measure student learning on a 4-point scale. Your school will share your child’s scores with you at the beginning of the next school year to help support your child’s success as he or she moves from grade to grade.

Why does participation matter?

While no single test can give a complete picture of your child’s progress, having your child take the statewide tests provides educators and administrators with information about what educational approaches are working and where additional resources are needed. Your child’s participation is important to ensure schools and districts receive the targeted resources they need to help all students succeed.

When will my child take the test?

Your child will be tested once after he or she has completed at least two-thirds of the school year. Your child’s school will determine the specific dates your child takes the tests within the statewide testing window above.

OREGON’S STATE TESTS

- **Challenge your child to think critically** and apply his or her knowledge to real-world problems
- **Go beyond multiple choice** and ask your child to explain his or her answers
- **Act as a snapshot of your child’s progress** and may be considered along with other pieces of information to determine your child’s academic success
- **Help identify schools and districts** that need additional supports to ensure more students are meeting higher standards

STATEWIDE TESTING WINDOWS

Smarter Balanced English Language Arts & Math Tests
February 9 – June 10, 2016

Oregon Extended Assessments for English Language Arts & Math
February 18 – April 28, 2016

STAY INFORMED

Talk to your child’s teacher or school principal if you have questions or want to learn more. Patience and persistence will be required to help our students and schools continue towards success.

Resources

To learn more about what your child should know and be able to do in English Language Arts & Math: <http://tinyurl.com/ELARoadmap> & <http://tinyurl.com/MathRoadmap>

To view sample test questions: <http://tinyurl.com/ORPracticeTests>

To read more about your child’s results: <http://tinyurl.com/ORTestResults>

DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

House Bill 2655 permits parents and adult students* to annually opt-out of Oregon’s statewide summative tests in English Language Arts and Math by submitting this form to the school the student attends. The school shall provide any student who is exempted from a state test with supervised study time while other students are testing. Visit this link to learn more about House Bill 2655: <http://tinyurl.com/OR-HB2655>.

To opt-out of state tests this section must be completed by the parent/guardian or adult student:

Student’s Legal Last Name _____

Student’s Legal First Name _____

Student’s ID Number _____ Enrolled Grade _____

Student’s School _____ Date _____

Please indicate the state test(s) you are opting out of for the 2015-16 school year:

	English Language Arts
	Mathematics

To best support school district planning, you are encouraged to submit this form to your child’s school no later than February 1, 2016. For students who enroll after the statewide testing window begins on February 9, 2016, you are encouraged to submit the form within 2 weeks of enrollment. This form is only valid for the 2015-16 school year. Parents and adult students are required to submit an opt-out form annually should they wish to be exempted from statewide summative tests.

I understand that by signing this form I may lose valuable information about how well my child is progressing in English Language Arts and Math. In addition, opting out may impact my school and district’s efforts to equitably distribute resources and support student learning.

Parent/Guardian* (signature) _____

*Adult students (age 18 and older) may sign on their own behalf and do not require a signature by a parent or guardian.

Parent/Guardian or Adult Student (printed name) _____