



## MEASURING STUDENT LEARNING IN 2021: What will be Different in Florida?

Since COVID-19 first led to sudden school closures in 2020, families have stepped up in unprecedented ways to support learning at home as students began learning remotely. Teachers and leaders have worked hard to put plans in place to ensure students are safe, offering students across Florida different learning models—remote, hybrid and in-person, with some school districts transitioning between them as circumstances demanded. But the unprecedented changes in learning have impacted students in many ways, from their relationships with peers and social emotional growth to academics.

This year, it is more important than ever to measure student learning to understand the impact that different learning models during COVID-19 have had on students. This is especially important for families, who need objective information about how well their child learned grade-level skills so they can better support learning over the summer to help their child be ready for the next grade. To measure learning, students will take the Florida Standard Assessments (FSA) this spring. While the FSAs are only one of many ways to measure student learning, families, teachers and leaders need the objective and actionable information the state test provides to identify any learning gaps to best support students and fully recover from the pandemic.

### How will State Tests be Different in 2021?

Knowing that the pandemic has deeply affected students, teachers and schools, the FSA will be different than in the past. As of March 2021, the following changes have been made:

- **Districts have a longer window (about two more weeks) for students to take the FSA. This will allow teachers additional time to cover content and for schools to test students in smaller groups with social distancing.**
- **As a result, student scores will come back a bit later than usual, with third grade ELA scores available by June 30th, and all other test scores by July 31st.**
- **While students will be required to take the test in-person, most districts will have plans to test students learning remotely separately from classmates learning in person.**

For the most recent information on the 2021 FSA, visit [FSAssessments.Org/](https://FSAssessments.Org/).