

Testing Frequently Asked Questions

The following guidance is provided for the Spring 2021 SC READY/SCPASS administration, based on questions the Office of Assessment has received.

1. Is it mandatory that students participate in state testing this school year?
 - The SCDE provided the following explanation in a press release on March 29, 2021:
 - The USDE has stated that they “do not believe that if there are places where students are unable to attend school safely in person because of the pandemic that they should be brought into school buildings for the sole purpose of taking a test.” If parents believe that it is unsafe for their child to attend school in person to take assessments, the SCDE and school districts will not require them to test and there will be no penalty at the student, teacher, school, district or state level the lack of a student score.
 - While the SCDE encourages the participation of all students, the SCDE is relying on and empowering parents to make the best decision for their children regarding testing.
 - For any student who does not participate in the summative assessments, school districts can use interim assessment data to inform instruction, intervention, summer learning, and learning loss/unfinished learning plans for 2021-22 and beyond.

Updated 4/27/2021