

**2021 Brevard Public Schools Q&A
Regarding DOE Order No. 2021-EQ-2, of 4-9-2021**

Graduation Code due to Assessment Waiver

1. *Will schools use a different graduation/withdrawal code since the seniors are exempt from assessments?*

Yes. When the state provides the graduation code, it will be shared with schools.

The code will be provided for use for any student who has met the credit and GPA requirements to receive a standard diploma and was exempted from required assessments in the 2020-2021 statewide assessments. A student with this code will count as a graduate in the high school graduation rate calculation. This code will only apply to students who are scheduled to graduate in the 2020-2021 school year and have met credit and GPA requirements for graduation.

EOC Courses and Assessment Requirements

IMPORTANT NOTE: The DOE is not canceling EOC testing. They are canceling the ramifications of EOC testing.

2. *Are we giving EOCs this year?*

Yes. However, the impact on course grades has been taken away.

- a. If the EOC hurts the final grade, the Final Course Grade will be calculated based on first semester (50%) and second semester (50%).
- b. If the EOC helps the final grade, the Final Course Grade will be calculated based on the first semester (35%), second semester (35%), and EOC (30%).

3. *Will the Final Course grade for EOC courses from the first and second quarters be calculated as 50%/50% or will they stay at the 35%/35%/30% that was already calculated?*

The EOC courses taken in 1st and 2nd quarter have already been recalculated as a 50%/50% and compared to the 35%/35%/30% calculation. Whichever calculation was higher has been recorded on the student's Academic History.

4. *Should students take the EOC since their grade can be calculated as 50%/50%?*

Yes, students should take the EOC. When the first and second semester grades were recalculated and then compared to the 35%/35%/30% calculation, many students (~600) had a higher grade due to the EOC.

5. *When the EOC Final Course Grade is calculated on a 50%/50% basis, what is used – numerical or quality points.*

The district will make the Final Course calculation using quality points.

6. Will EOC summer testing be available for students?

Yes

7. If a student takes an EOC course over the summer, should they take the EOC, and how is the Final Course Grade calculated?

- a. If a student starts an EOC course during the school year and completes the course in the summer, the recommendation is that the student takes the EOC. The Final Course Grade is calculated both as 35%/35%/30% and 50%/50%. Whichever grade is higher is posted on AS400.
- b. If a student takes an EOC course for Credit/Course Recovery over the summer, the recommendation is that the student takes the EOC. The Final Course Grade is calculated both as 35%/35%/30% and 50%/50%. Whichever grade is higher is posted on AS400.
- c. If a student starts an EOC course that they have never taken before during the summer, the student must take the EOC when the course is completed (summer or fall). The Final Course Grade is calculated 35%/35%/30%.

8. Last year the Algebra 1 EOC was waived, and students were told that the Geometry EOC could count as a comparative score for graduation purposes. This year the Geometry EOC is waived. What will the graduation requirements be for students who are not of the 2021 graduation cohort?

These students still need to meet the Math assessment for graduation. The Geometry EOC WILL be given this year, and it is recommended that the students take the assessment. The assessment will not negatively impact the Final Course Grade and could meet the student's Math assessment requirement for graduation.

EOC Courses – Credit Recovery

9. When an EOC course is taken through credit recovery this year (Credit Recovery, Performance Based Program and/or Adult Ed) is the EOC required?

Yes. However, the impact on course grades has been taken away.

- a. If the EOC hurts the final grade, the Final Course Grade will be calculated based on first semester (50%) and second semester (50%).
- b. If the EOC helps the final grade, the Final Course Grade will be calculated based on the first semester (35%), second semester (35%) and EOC (30%).

10. Are EOC courses taken through credit recovery calculated as 50%/50%? What if the course was previously taken and an EOC score is available? Will that "old" EOC score be used when calculating the new Final Course Grade?

EOC courses taken through credit recovery will be calculated (through AS400) with and without the EOC that was taken previously. Whichever grade is highest will be the Final Course Grade recorded in AS400 for the student.

11. Who calculates the new average of EOC courses taken through Credit Recovery?

The district will calculate the new Final Course Grade.

Assessment Waiver

12. For which students DOES the Florida Statewide Assessments Waiver for graduation apply?

- a. Current Seniors, even if they did not participate in the Spring 2021 Retake(s) and/or have been retained multiple times.
- b. Students who are scheduled to graduate in the Spring of 2021 but are coded in AS400 as non-seniors (e.g., 18-credit hour program).

13. To whom does the Florida Statewide Assessment Waiver NOT apply?

- a. Adult Education students who were not enrolled as of 4-9-2021.
- b. Current seniors moving from 12th grade to Adult Education after 4-9-2021.
- c. Current seniors who do not complete their credit and GPA requirements as of 7-16-2021

Assessment Waiver – Current Seniors

14. Will a currently enrolled senior who should graduate this spring, but for one reason or another needs to continue this summer for credits and/or to increase their GPA be exempted from the required assessments for graduation?

Yes, the student will be exempted from the required assessments for graduation if all other requirements needed for graduation (credits and GPA) are completed as of 7-16-2021.

Assessment Waiver – Retained Seniors

15. Will the 2020 grads who have remained in school for a 5th year be exempt from testing?

Yes. The DOE does not specify a particular graduation cohort, but rather refers to “currently enrolled students who are expected to graduate in the spring of 2021”.

Assessment Waiver – Early Graduates

16. Are Early Graduates also included in the assessment exemption since they will be graduating this year?

Yes. The DOE does not specify a particular graduation cohort but rather refers to “currently enrolled students who are expected to graduate in the spring of 2021”.

Assessment Waiver – Non-Seniors

17. Since non-seniors taking Algebra 1 are not taking the EOC this year, how will they meet the Algebra 1 EOC requirements for graduation?

Non-seniors who are currently enrolled in Algebra 1 may use one of the following to meet the graduation requirements:

- a. Passing the Algebra 1 EOC, which is offered four times each year, during a future administration or,
- b. Earning a comparative score.

18. Do 10th graders who did not take the Grade 10 FSA ELA in the Spring of 2021 still need to meet the High School graduation assessment requirements?

Yes. Non-seniors who have not passed the Grade 10 FSA ELA must still meet the high school graduation assessment requirements by passing the grade 10 FSA ELA or by earning a concordant score.

ESE Students

19. Access students who have not taken the FSAA cannot receive an ESE Waiver for graduation. Do they qualify to graduate from high school under the assessment waiver? Will there be a special graduation/withdrawal code?

Yes, they would qualify to graduate from high school under the assessment waiver. The new graduation code is for any student who has met the credit and GPA requirements to receive a standard diploma and was exempted from required assessments (FSA and FSAA) of the 2020-2021 statewide assessments. A student with the code will count as a graduate in the high school graduation rate calculation. This code will only apply to students who are scheduled to graduate in the 2020-2021 school year and have met credit and GPA requirements for graduation.

Diploma Designations

20. Must current seniors meet the EOC testing requirements (Geometry, Biology and US History) for the Scholar Diplomas Designation? Non-seniors?

EOC assessment requirements are waived for seniors graduating in 2021. Student who do not graduate in the 2020-2021 school year will be required to meet the EOC assessment requirements to earn the designation for future years.

21. Must a student graduating in 2021 pass the FSA ELA for the Seal of Biliteracy?

Yes.

Retention Decisions

22. Can parents request retention of their child in the current grade for the 2021-2022 year?

Yes, parents may REQUEST retention of their child for the next school year. Decisions about whether it is in the best interest of a student to repeat a grade must be determined at the local level by the school's principal, after careful review of the student's academic records, with input from the parents, the student, teachers and school leaders. Only academic performance, or provisions in a student's IEP can be considered when discussing retention for the next school year.

It is suggested that an administrative conference be held with all academic information reviewed. The decision would be made in consultation with the parent, counselor, teacher(s) and administration. The final decision should be noted in the Notes Section on S319.

Bright Futures

23. Will graduating seniors still need volunteer service hours for Bright Futures?

Yes, School Counselors will still need to document compliance with the required number of volunteer service hours for each scholarship award. School Counselors/designees will need to document hours the student planned for or intended to complete by high school graduation. A school counselor can document intention by ensuring a work plan proposal has been completed and approved prior to graduation. The work plan proposal must be approved and filed in the student's cumulative folder.

24. How can current seniors retesting with ACT/SAT for Bright Futures have scores submitted to Bright Futures since the testing window is now extended to December 1, 2021?

Students graduating in the spring of 2021 can test through December 1, 2021 to achieve the minimum SAT/ACT scores. When a student registers for the SAT/ACT, the student will need to have official scores sent to at least one of the twelve public universities (does not include EFSC- they are a state college). Sending scores to one of the twelve public universities will place the test scores in the FLDOE repository system and Bright Futures will automatically update once scores are received. After evaluating new test scores, students will need to check their Bright Futures account for updated information about award status. Award or denial notification will only be posted to a student's *Financial Aid Recipient History* screen in the student's BF account.

(<https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>)

25. Does this include a senior who is graduates in June?

Yes