



PARCC Field Test Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is participating in the field tests?

Fourteen states and the District of Columbia are administering the PARCC field tests this spring.

2. What are performance-based assessment and end of year assessment?

Performance-Based Assessment (PBA): For PARCC, the performance-based assessment will be administered approximately 75 percent of the way through the academic study of the grade or course content. Student results on the PBAs will be combined with their results on end-of-year assessments (EOYs) to produce overall PARCC scores in each content area. PBAs in math will focus on reasoning and modeling and include questions that require both short and extended responses. In ELA/literacy, the PBAs will focus on both reading comprehension and writing when analyzing texts.

End of Year Assessment (EOY): End-of-year assessments are administered after approximately 90 percent of the school year. The ELA/literacy EOY will focus on reading comprehension. The mathematics EOY will ask students to demonstrate solid understanding of math concepts and demonstrate mathematical fluency.

3. Will the PARCC Field Test include paper-based tests?

Yes. While the goal is that all students will take PARCC assessments on a computer in the future, PARCC intends to offer paper-based versions of its assessments in the near term. Accordingly, some schools will be selected to field test computer-based assessments, and others will administer paper-based assessments. No school will be asked to administer Field Tests in both paper and computer modes.

4. Why are some students only taking one component (Performance-Based Assessment OR End-of-Year Assessment), while other students are taking both components (both Performance-Based Assessment AND End-of-Year Assessment)?

The majority of students will take only one half of the assessment in one content area. This will allow PARCC to collect data needed to accomplish the purposes of the Field Test.

5. Is there a practice test that I can take to see the types of questions students will answer?

Yes. You can find practice tests [here](#).