

# Tennessee School Boards Association

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in November</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Testing Programs</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>4.700</b>	Issued Date:
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 The Board shall provide for a systemwide testing program which shall be periodically reviewed and  
2 evaluated. The purposes of the program shall be to:

- 3
- 4 1. Assist in promoting accountability;
- 5 2. Determine the progress of students;
- 6 3. Assess the effectiveness of the instructional program and student learning;
- 7 4. Aid in counseling and guiding students in planning future education and other endeavors;
- 8 5. Analyze the improvements needed in a given instructional area;
- 9 6. Assist in the screening of students with learning difficulties;<sup>1,2</sup>
- 10 7. Assist in placing students in remedial programs;
- 11 8. Provide information for college entrance and placement; and
- 12 9. Assist in educational research by providing data.

13  
14 The director of schools shall be responsible for planning and implementing the program, which in-  
15 cludes:

- 16
- 17 1. Determining specific purposes for each test;
- 18 2. Selecting the appropriate test to be given;
- 19 3. Establishing procedures for administering the tests;
- 20 4. Making provision for interpreting and disseminating the results;
- 21 5. Maintaining testing information in a consistent and confidential manner; and
- 22 6. Ensuring that results are obtained as quickly as possible, especially when placement in a special  
23 learning program might be necessary.

24  
25 State-mandated student testing programs shall be undertaken in accordance with procedures published  
26 by the State Department of Education.<sup>3</sup>

27  
28 In addition to such achievement, competency or end-of-course tests as required by the Board and the  
29 State Board of Education,<sup>3</sup> students must attain a minimum score on the required gateway exams. Stu-  
30 dents will have additional opportunities to retake any of the gateway tests in which the minimum score  
31 was not obtained and students shall be provided remediation through before or after school tutoring and/  
32 or summer school.

33  
34 Student scores on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program's grades three through eight (3-8)  
35 shall comprise fifteen (15%) percent of the student's final grade in the spring semester in the subject  
36 areas of mathematics, reading/language arts, science and social studies.<sup>4</sup>

37  
38 Other tests may be given as requested by students, teachers or parents when approved by the princi-  
39 pal.  
40  
41

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

Any test directly concerned with measuring student ability or achievement through individual or group psychological or sociometric tests shall not be administered by or with the knowledge of any employee of the system without first obtaining written consent of the parents or guardians.<sup>2</sup>

Results of all group tests shall be recorded on the students' permanent records and shall be made available to appropriate personnel in accordance with established procedures.<sup>5</sup>

---

Legal References:

1. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-10-108
2. 20 USCA 1232 g(h)
3. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.03(9)
4. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-614
5. Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-504

---

Cross References:

- Student Psychological Services 6.406  
Student Records 6.600

**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1127****SENATE BILL NO. 3427****By Finney, Kelsey, Stewart, Tate, Black**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3545

By Maddox, Maggart, Harwell, Towns; Mr. Speaker Williams; Hardaway, Naifeh, Richardson, Ramsey, Brown, Eldridge, Fincher, Ty Cobb, Kevin Brooks, Coleman, Camper, McDonald, Barker, Litz, Dunn, Haynes, Winningham, Lynn, Montgomery, Fitzhugh, Carr, Todd, Lollar, Yokley, Evans, Harry Brooks, Hensley, Stewart, McCormick, Campfield, Weaver, Shaw, Bone, White, Curtis Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to student assessments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 6, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

§ 49-1-614. Each local board of education shall develop a policy by which student scores on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program's grades three through eight (3-8) achievement tests shall comprise a percentage of the student's final grade for the spring semester in the subject areas of mathematics, reading/language arts, science and social studies. The percentage shall be determined by the local board from a range of no less than fifteen percent (15%) and no more than twenty-five percent (25%). The policy shall utilize performance levels determined by the State Board of Education and be developed and implemented for the spring semester of 2011.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-6002, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(b) Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year and every school year thereafter, there shall be a testing window of two (2) consecutive school weeks for the administration of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program's grades three through eight (3-8) achievement tests. Testing shall begin no earlier than the first Monday occurring on or after April 22; provided, however, that the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program tests shall not be administered prior to the completion of one hundred fifty (150) days of instruction. Those local education agencies with schools beginning on the second Monday in August or before shall test during the first week of the testing window. The Commissioner of Education shall have the authority to adjust the testing schedule for reasons including, but not limited to, natural disaster, prolonged inclement weather, or serious outbreak of contagious illness.


SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: June 8, 2010

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 29th day of June 2010

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR