

RAISING THE BAR

PARCC: A New Assessment to Support Student Success



We have set the bar high to support student success. Every day, your child's learning is guided by the Common Core State Standards. These challenging standards prepare all students for success in college, career, and life.

This spring, the DC-CAS will be replaced with a new set of assessments from PARCC. The new, computer-based PARCC assessments will match the high expectations of the Common Core and will require students to think critically and solve real-world problems. Students in grades 3–8 and students enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry, and English I & II will take PARCC this year. PARCC will better assess what your child is learning in school and help teachers and parents know if students are on track for success in college and careers.

PARCC stands for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

PARCC: What to Expect

WHAT: PARCC is a new, more advanced test that students will take on the computer. It replaces the DC-CAS.

WHO: All DC students (DCPS and public charter schools) in grades 3–8 and students enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry, English I & II

WHEN: The PARCC assessment is administered in two parts:

Part 1: Performance-Based Assessment (reading and math)

Date: March 10–April 8, 2015

Measures writing, research skills, and the student's ability to solve multistep math problems

Part 2: End-of-Year Assessment (reading and math)

Date: May 7–June 5, 2015

Measures reading comprehension and math concepts and skills through multiple-choice and short-answer questions

NOTE: Students are not testing every day during the date ranges. Each school will determine its testing days and will let you know exactly when your child will be testing. Total PARCC testing time will generally be the same as total DC-CAS testing for each student.

How are PARCC assessments different from DC-CAS?

	DC-CAS	PARCC
Grades tested	3–10	3–8 and students in Algebra I, Geometry, English I & II
Curriculum focus	Not based on the Common Core State Standards	Based on the Common Core State Standards
Purpose	Evaluated K–12 proficiency	Evaluates on track or off track for college and career
How test is administered	Paper and pencil	Online (computers)

PARCC provides access for English language learners and students with an Individualized Education Program or 504 plan through a range of accommodations.

