

Guidelines for High School CRES Assessments

October 2007 Update

(Changes from prior year highlighted in red)

Overview

The Criterion-Referenced Evaluation System (CRES) assessments were initiated in the late 1980's as countywide measures of students' mastery of the essential curriculum. School and county results from these assessments are included in the annual FCPS "Progress Reports," disaggregated by gender, race and socioeconomic status.

Teachers and curriculum specialists develop and refine CRES assessments during the yearly summer workshops, adjusting as necessary to ensure continued alignment with state content standards and testing programs. The CRES assessment format varies by department and course, to reflect the nature of the discipline and the specifics of the essential curriculum. Most high school CRES assessments include both selected response (multiple choice, etc.) and constructed response (brief and extended) items. Curriculum specialists provide teachers with written directions for administering and scoring the tests, including answer keys, scoring tools and rubrics.

Following a weighting practice established with the old "Common Exams," high school CRES assessments count 20% of students' final grades in designated courses. The list of such courses is approved by the Secondary Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and modified as necessary to accommodate new assessments resulting from curriculum audits, field tests, etc.

CRES results at the high school level are collected in two separate ways, the *CRES Score* (percentage, up to 100) and the *CRES Grade* (letter grade, up to "A"). Following calculations, both are entered for each student using procedures in place for term and semester grade collection.

CRES Scores are calculated using the written aggregation procedures provided by the curriculum specialist. All teachers of the course use the same procedure to calculate a student's CRES Score, and the data is used for school and system accountability.

CRES Grades are calculated using the professional judgment and discretion of each teacher, taking into account such things as the academic level of the student, performance and progress of the overall class, etc. Since professional judgment is exercised in calculating CRES grades, the data is not used for school or system accountability.

Regulation 400-62, "Test Security and Data Reporting" addresses the administration, scoring, reporting and security of assessments. CRES assessments are included in the scope of that regulation.

Current Course Approval List
Courses with CRES Assessments Counting 20% of Final Grades
2005-06 Administration

SOCIAL STUDIES				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Modern World History – H	161111	YES	YES	YES
Modern World History – M	161211	YES	YES	YES
Modern World History – D	161410	YES	YES	YES
Modern World History – IEP	161800	YES	YES	YES
American Studies II – H	163111	YES	YES	YES
American Studies II – M	163211	YES	YES	YES
American Studies II – D	163410	YES	YES	YES
American Studies II – IEP	163800	YES	YES	YES
Government – H	161101	YES	YES	NO
Government – M	161201	YES	YES	NO
Government – D	161400	YES	YES	NO
Government – IEP	161820	YES	YES	NO
ELL Government A	563590	NO	NO	NO
ELL Government B	563890	YES	YES	YES

SCIENCE

COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Introductory Chemistry/Physics – H	191211	YES	YES	YES
Introductory Chemistry/Physics – M	191311	YES	YES	YES
Introductory Chemistry/Physics – D	191410	YES	YES	YES
Introductory Chemistry/Physics - IEP	191810	YES	YES	YES
Chemistry I – H	193001	YES	YES	YES
Fundamentals of Chemistry	193211	YES	YES	YES
Physics I – H	194301	YES	YES	YES
Physics w/Applications	194211	NO	NO	NO
Environmental Science	192401	NO	NO	NO
Algebra-Based Physics	191901	YES	YES	YES
Biology - H	191111	YES	YES	NO
Biology - M	192211	YES	YES	NO
Biology - D	192410	YES	YES	NO
Biology - IEP	192800	YES	YES	NO
Chemistry in the Community (ChemCom)	193201	NO	NO	NO
Chemistry II	193101	NO	NO	NO
Physics II	194121	NO	NO	NO
AP Biology I	193111	NO	NO	NO
AP Biology II	194111	NO	NO	NO
AP Chemistry I	196051	NO	NO	NO
AP Chemistry II	196061	NO	NO	NO
AP Physics I	194181	NO	NO	NO
AP Physics II	194191	NO	NO	NO
AP Environmental Science	193511	NO	NO	NO

MATHEMATICS

COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Applications to Algebra & Geometry	234251	NO	NO	NO
Algebra II	233201	YES	YES	YES
Algebra II - H	232111	YES	YES	YES
Advanced Algebra w/Trig	233221	YES	YES	YES
Precalculus w/Trig	234201	YES	YES	NO
Precalculus w/Trig- H	233111	YES	YES	NO
Statistics and Probability	232211	YES	YES	YES
Introduction To Algebra	231300	YES	YES	NO
Algebra I w/Data Analysis – Part A	231271	YES	YES	NO
IEP Algebra I – Part A	231340	YES	YES (same as #231271)	NO
Algebra I w/Data Analysis - Part B	231281	YES	YES	NO
Algebra I, Part A Cognitive Tutor	231471	YES	YES	NO
Algebra I, Part B Cognitive Tutor	231481	YES	YES	NO
IEP Algebra I – Part B	231380	YES	YES (same as #231281)	NO
Algebra I w/Data Analysis	231201	YES	YES	NO
Yearlong Algebra I w/Data Analysis	231291	YES	YES	NO
Yearlong Algebra w/Data Analysis - Cognitive Tutor	231491	YES	YES	NO
IEP Algebra I	231330	YES	YES (same as #231201)	NO
Geometry /Reasoning	232201	YES	YES	NO
IEP Geometry	232220	YES	YES (same as #232201)	NO
Geometry /Reasoning - Honors	231111	YES	YES	NO
AP Calculus Part A	234181	NO	NO	NO
AP Calculus Part B	234191	NO	NO	NO
AP Calculus I	234101	NO	NO	NO
AP Calculus II	234121	NO	NO	NO
Math 9 IEP	231800	NO	NO	NO
Math 10 IEP	232800	NO	NO	NO
Math 11 IEP	233800	NO	NO	NO
Math 12 IEP	234800	NO	NO	NO

ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ARTS

COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
English 9A	131150	NO	NO	NO
English 9B	131410	YES	YES	NO
ELL English 9A	563820	NO	NO	NO
ELL English 9B	563880	YES	YES	YES
English 9 –H	131111	YES	YES	NO
English 9 - M	131211	YES	YES	NO
English 9 - IEP	131800	YES	YES	NO
English 10 – H	132111	YES	YES	NO
English 10 – M	132211	YES	YES	NO
English 10 – D	132410	YES	YES	NO
English 10 – IEP	132800	YES	YES	NO
ELL English 10A	563800	NO	NO	NO
ELL English 10B	563810	YES	YES	NO
English 11 – H	133111	YES	YES	NO
English 11 – M	133211	YES	YES	NO
English 11 – D	133410	YES	YES	NO
English 11 – IEP	133800	YES	YES	NO
English 12 – M	134121	YES	YES	NO
English 12- D	134410	YES	YES	NO
English 12 - IEP	134800	YES	YES	NO
AP English Language and Composition	134181	NO	NO	NO
AP English Language and Composition	134381	NO	NO	NO
AP English Literature and Composition	134371	NO	NO	NO
Modern Issues	136110	YES	YES	NO
Film Study	133310	YES	YES	NO
Creative Writing	134250	YES	YES	NO
Humanities	134211	NO	NO	NO
Journalism 1	134220	YES	YES	NO
Journalism 2	134230	YES	YES	NO
Journalism 3	134330	YES	YES	NO
Journalism 4	134430	YES	YES	NO
HSA English	137100	YES	YES	NO
HSA English Tutorial	137700	NO	NO	NO
Reading/Writing Workshop 1	137200	NO	NO	NO
Reading/Writing Workshop 2	137210	NO	NO	NO
English 12 Merit @ C&T Center	134281	YES	YES	NO
English 12 Directed @ C&T Center	134480	YES	YES	NO

GRADUATION PROJECT				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Graduation Project - CTC	539040	YES	YES	NO
Graduation Project – Combination	569020	YES	YES	NO
Graduation Project – Course	569010	YES	YES	NO
Graduation Project – Independent Study	569100	YES	YES	NO
FOREIGN LANGUAGE				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
French I	261000	YES	YES	YES
French II	262000	YES	YES	YES
German I	261010	YES	YES	YES
German II	262010	YES	YES	YES
Italian I	261160	YES	YES	YES
Italian II	261260	YES	YES	YES
Latin I	261030	YES	YES	YES
Latin II	262030	YES	YES	YES
Spanish I	261020	YES	YES	YES
Spanish II	262020	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICAL EDUCATION				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Fitness For Life	461030	YES	YES	YES
Health	461020	YES	YES	YES
ART				
Art I	291010	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art II	292011	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art III	291141	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art Independent Study I	294051	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art Independent Study II	294151	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art Independent Study III	294451	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Art Independent Study IV	294551	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Ceramics I	291060	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Ceramics II	292061	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Ceramics III	293061	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO

Art (Continued)				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
Ceramics IV	293191	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Commercial Art I	292040	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Commercial Art II	293041	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Computer Graphics I	294040	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Computer Graphics II	294041	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Computer Graphics III	294042	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Computer Graphics IV	294043	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Drawing & Painting I	291020	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Drawing & Painting II	292021	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Drawing & Painting III	293021	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Jewelry and Small Sculpture	291171	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Photography I	291090	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Photography II	292091	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Photography III	292191	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Photography IV	292201	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Sculpture I	291130	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Sculpture II	291151	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
Western Art History	293121	YES	YES (portfolio)	NO
AP Studio Art I	293141	NO	NO	NO
AP Studio Art II	294141	NO	NO	NO
AP Western Art History	293131	NO	NO	NO
DRAMA/THEATER				
CRES assessments are still in the process of being finalized.		NO	YES Pilot Testing	
MUSIC				
CRES assessments are still in the process of being finalized.		NO	YES Field Testing	

CAREER & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION				
COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE	APPROVED FOR 20% CALC	COUNTY-WIDE CRES	END-OF-COURSE SR COMPONENT
CRES assessments are in the process of being designed and field tested in designated courses/programs		NO	YES – Confirm status of CTE course with appropriate curriculum specialist/supervisor	

***Advanced Placement (AP) Testing Note:**

Past practice for AP courses has been to have a teacher-designed test administered to students who elect not to take the AP examination. In some cases, teachers had previously been calculating and reporting exam letter grades for these tests, and the computer had been incorporating the results as 20% of students' final grades. Problems with that practice included:

- May AP testing window not impacting first semester courses
- Individual teachers' tests being reported as countywide CRES assessments

For these reasons, *teacher-designed tests given in AP courses are not reported as CRES Scores or CRES Grades*. AP teachers are to incorporate their teacher-designed tests in the calculation of students' final term grades.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Is there a limit on the number of CRES assessments a student can take during a single semester or exam day?

Students must take CRES assessments in all of their courses that are on the approved list. The testing schedule is no longer restricted to four ninety-minute sessions spread over two days at the end of the course. Instead it is a flexible schedule spread over the entire semester. Some assessment components are given during normal class periods throughout the semester, while others are taken on the established “exam days” at the end of each semester.

Math, social studies and science courses, for example, include components taken on the exam day, with an allowance of 70 minutes of engaged testing time for each test. Students are not expected to take more than 3 assessments on any single exam day. Other assessment components are taken during regular class periods, either at designated times throughout the course or at the end of the semester. The English 9 assessment, for example, is taken during a single class period within the regular schedule.

In all cases, teachers are to follow the directions, schedules and time allowances provided by the curriculum specialist, calling for clarification as needed.

2. May students take CRES assessments prior to the official exam date?

NO! For test security reasons, *CRES assessments may not be administered early in any school.* Students who do not attend school on the date of administration should:

- be given an opportunity to make up the assessment at a later date, if the absence is excused
- receive a score of “0” if the absence is unexcused

The Associate Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum and Administration must approve any exception to this rule.

3. What do teachers need to do for the CRES Assessments?

All teachers are expected to:

- **FOLLOW** the guidelines in this document and all directions contained in the assessment packet provided by the curriculum specialist.
- **REVIEW** the essential objectives and formatives with all students.
- **ADMINISTER** the tests in accordance with the guidelines provided by the curriculum specialist
- **MAINTAIN** the security of test materials before, during and after testing
- **CALCULATE** the CRES Score using the procedures provided by the curriculum specialist
- **CALCULATE** the CRES Grade using professional judgment
- **RECORD** CRES Score and CRES Grade in grade book and student information system (Pentamation) using procedures established for term and semester grades. (The CRES score may be collected during the field testing of new assessments, but the score will not be printed on the students’ report cards.
- **RETURN** test materials and Scantron forms, as applicable, to department chair for return to the appropriate curriculum specialist.

- **STORE** student papers in a secure area for future reference.

4. How can teachers override the final grade generated by the computer?

The weighting of term and CRES grades is incorporated into the student database. To override the computer-calculated final course grade, teachers must request this change in writing using school-based procedures established at the school site. A designated member of the schools' support staff will enter the grade override.

5. What should be done with the CRES assessments after testing is completed?

CRES assessments are secure documents, before, during and after testing. Proper disposal of assessments after testing is completed is critical. School testing coordinators should check with the FCPS Testing Office to determine appropriate procedures for disposing of CRES assessments after each semester's testing.

School test coordinators should establish school wide procedures for disposing of CRES assessments following testing. Each department chair should check with the school test coordinator to determine the procedures to be used in disposing of assessments after testing is concluded. Each department chair should communicate the identified disposal procedures to all members of their department and monitor compliance with those procedures. Failure to follow proper disposal procedures by members of the department must be reported to the school test coordinator.