

House Bill 487 updated Ohio's graduation requirements to ensure that all students are ready for success in college and work. Instead of taking the Ohio Graduation Tests, Students who will be 2018 graduates and those following, are required to take the Ohio's State Tests and earn a minimum of 18 points on the tests. **Please understand that if students have been told they will be tested, it means they are taking a course where an End-of-Course Assessment is required by the State of Ohio, or they are retaking an EOC assessment as they have not yet accumulated their required graduation points.**

Because the state requires that all testing be done online – and to ensure that students who need to take the tests are not being overlooked – Toledo Public Schools has devised a testing schedule for its six comprehensive high schools – Bowsher, Rogers, Scott, Start, Waite and Woodward - that will require early dismissal for seniors and other students not being tested on a given day. That way, there will be enough computers and quiet spaces for those students being tested. Students taking tests will report to school at their regular time and will be dismissed at their regular time.

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions and the answers:

What is the difference between the Ohio's State Tests and the Ohio Graduation Tests?

The Ohio's State Tests are more rigorous and are designed to make sure that students are ready to enter college or the work force. To learn more from the Ohio Department of Education, click here: <http://bit.ly/2opIWWt>

What is the benefit of the TPS testing schedule?

In past years, high schools used the entire testing window to administer state tests. This resulted in pulling a few students from various classes, interrupting the educational process for six weeks. Beginning in March, testing will be done in such a way that students at the district's six comprehensive high schools – Bowsher, Rogers, Scott, Start, Waite and Woodward - will all be tested at the same time. Seniors and other students not being tested will still get instructional time for two or three periods a day and will have early dismissal.

How can you test all of the students at the same time?

The Ohio's State Tests are online tests. To ensure sure that every TPS high school student is tested on the same day, TPS purchased Chromebooks for the high schools. If testing numbers exceed the number of Chromebooks currently in the high schools, additional Chromebooks from throughout the district will be brought to the high schools and set up in individual classrooms.

Who will be taking the Ohio's State Tests?

Any student currently in a course with a required End-of-Course Assessment - which includes ELA I, ELA II, Algebra I, Geometry, American Studies, American Government and Biology - will take the OSTs. Also, any student who needs to retake an EOC to increase points/requirements necessary for graduation will retake the OSTs. Students at the six comprehensive high schools – Bowsher, Rogers, Scott, Start, Waite and Woodward – will be the

ones tested using the revised schedule. Students at Jones Leadership Academy, Toledo Early College, Toledo Technology Academy and Westfield Achievement will be taking the Ohio's State Tests but will have their own schedules. **Please understand that if students have been told they will be tested, it means they have not yet accumulated their 18 points.**

What is the schedule for the tests?

The high school tests are being given during two different weeks: March 26 and April 23.

There will be four days of testing the week of March 26:

- **ELA 1 - Monday, March 26 (Part 1) and Tuesday, March 27 (Part 2)**
 - All freshmen and select sophomores, juniors and seniors will take the test
 - Non-tested students will be released at 11:45 a.m.
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- **ELA 2 – Wednesday, March 28 (Part 1) and Thursday, March 29**
 - All sophomores and select juniors and seniors will take the test
 - All freshmen and non-tested students released at 11:45 a.m.

There will be a full week of testing the week of April 23. That week's schedule is as follows:

- **American History - Monday, April 23**
 - All sophomores and select juniors and seniors will take the test
 - All freshmen and non-tested students will be released at 10:45 a.m.
- **Algebra 1 - Tuesday, April 24**
 - All freshmen and select sophomores, juniors and seniors will take the test
 - Non-tested students will be released at 10:45 a.m.
- **Biology - Wednesday, April 25**
 - All sophomores and select juniors and seniors will take the test
 - All freshmen and non-tested students released at 10:45 a.m.
- **Geometry - Thursday, April 26**
 - All sophomores and select juniors and seniors will take the test
 - All freshmen and non-tested students released at 10:45 a.m.
- **American Government - Friday, April 27**
 - Juniors and select seniors will take the test. **PLEASE NOTE: Students not taking the test will be on their regular schedule and will dismiss at their regular time.**

Will there be transportation on testing days?

Yes, TARTA buses will be operating so both the students leaving early and those leaving at their regular time will have transportation home.

Will there be breakfast and lunch served for high school students?

Yes, both meals will be served, although the lunch period will only be from 11:45 a.m. until 12:25 p.m. during the March week and from 10:45 a.m. until 11:25 a.m. during the April week.

What about the special programs for elementary students?

On most testing days, there will be NO Early Risers music program or Early High School Opportunity (EHSO) classes. Gifted classes WILL be held; 4th grade enrichment will be cancelled between March 26-29 and April 23-26.

What other tests will high school students be taking this semester?

All juniors will be taking the **SAT on Wednesday, March 7** with the makeup test set for March 21. This is a state requirement. Non-Standard Testing (testing for students with approved accommodations for extended time and/or extended breaks) will run from March 7-20. **ONLY JUNIORS WILL REPORT THIS DAY; ALL OTHER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE OFF.** Elementary schools will run their normal schedule, although there will be no Early Risers music program or EHSO classes. Gifted classes will be held.

Where can I go if I want to learn more about the state's graduation requirements?

Go to www.tps.org, find your student's high school, and click on the Graduation Requirements tab on the school's home page. There, you will find information about TPS requirements and a link to a special section on the Ohio Department of Education website.

What should I do if I have more questions?

If you have any questions about graduation requirements or want to check the number of points your student has, please contact the counselor at the high school your child attends.