

Testing Requirements

End-of-Grade (EOG)

Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades will take the state-mandated EOG tests in reading and math and 8th grade science. These tests assess a student's mastery of the subject content. A score of I or II indicates a student's skills are below grade level. A score of III, IV, or V indicates that a student is performing at grade level or above.

End-of-Course (EOC)

Students taking high school courses with state-mandated EOC tests must take the test. These tests assess a student's mastery of course content. Students must earn a Level III, IV or a V in order to earn credit.

Promotion Standards

In middle school, students should earn passing grades and demonstrate proficiency in reading and math to be promoted. North Carolina law mandates that the final decision for promotion lies with the principal.

High School Courses in Middle School

The State Board of Education recently changed its policy to increase rigor by offering more options for middle school students to take select high school courses while still in middle school and receive credit. Some of the advantages of taking these courses before reaching high school include the opportunity to earn high school credits toward graduation, the ability to have more time to take Advanced Placement courses, opportunities to take online courses through the NC Virtual Public School or other approved online providers, and the opportunity to take dual enrollment in courses at a local college or university and graduate early.

Talk with your child's counselor if your child may be ready for high school courses. If an online high school level course is recommended, students and their parents should read and discuss the [DPS eLearning Handbook](#) prior to enrolling. DPS recommends that middle school students who take high school courses meet the following standards:

- *Have demonstrated mastery in all academic subjects*
- *Have demonstrated ability to manage complex assignments independently*
- *Have strong personal motivation to excel academically*
- *Have academic goals that require taking high school courses early*

Additional standards for high school courses in middle school are:

MATH I

- Students must meet the DPS mathematics placement criteria

WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES

- French or Spanish I (*Most schools offer Part 1 in 7th grade, Part 2 in 8th grade*)
- Mandarin I (*Shepard only*)
- Latin 1 (*Lakewood only*)