

Assessment Information for Parents

Arizona is asking more from our students so they can achieve their full potential. The ACT, ACT Aspire, and AzSCI tests measure a wide range of real-world skills, like critical thinking, problem-solving, and analysis. For high school students, this exam is NOT required for graduation. It provides an accurate tool to measure how well your child is mastering the skills expected of young people in higher education and as they begin their careers.

ACT/ACT Aspire

The statewide high school achievement tests are ACT Aspire (Grade 9) and ACT (Grade 11), and will take place in March and April of . Together, these assessments measure English, Math, Reading, Writing, and Science. In addition, the ACT is an assessment that can be used to help students enter college. Parent information about the statewide achievement tests can be found at

<https://www.azed.gov/assessment/parents>.

AzSCI

The Arizona statewide test to measure Science is the AzSCI (formerly the AIMS Science test) and is administered to students in **Grade 11** in the Spring. The AzSCI is a computer-based assessment that allows for the use of a variety of innovative item types, all aligned to the Arizona Science Standards **adopted in 2018**. A sample test can be viewed [here](#).

AZELLA

Given at **all grade levels**, the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) is a standards-based assessment to measure students' English language proficiency. AZELLA is used for both placement and reassessment purposes and the students' proficiency scores determine appropriate placement for instruction. Students who have been placed into an English language learner program will also take the AZELLA reassessment once per year until they achieve proficiency. Students who have scored proficient on the AZELLA are then monitored for two years to help ensure success after their move into a mainstream classroom.

The AzELLA is available as an online test. A sample test can be viewed [here](#).

Civics Test - High School Graduation Requirement

In 2015, the Arizona legislature passed the Arizona Civics Test Law. A.R.S. 15-701.01 requires students to pass a civics test based on the United States Immigration and Naturalization civics questions. Students will be required to score 60% or higher in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency certificate. School districts are required to document on the student's transcript that the student passed the civics test. Catalina Foothills High School administers the Civics Test to juniors. Juniors who pass the civics test do not need to take the test again.

Beginning with the class of 2026, students will be required to score 70% or higher on the Civics test.

- Students may retake the test as many times as necessary to pass. The test is untimed.
- Students receiving special education services are exempt from obtaining a passing score unless required by an IEP.
- Students who use accommodations in classroom assessments will be offered the same or similar accommodations for the civics test.
- Local school districts decide how the test is to be administered.

Civics Test Resources:

[Arizona Revised Statute](#), ARS 15-701.01

[Arizona Civics Test Fact Sheet \(PDF\)](#)

[List of 100 U.S. Civics Questions \(PDF\)](#)

[Civics Test Study Materials](#) available through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.