

Frequently Asked Questions 2010 English Language Arts and Mathematics Test Dates

This year, the New York State English Language Arts (ELA) and math tests will be administered later in the school year than they have in the past. Below are answers to frequently asked questions about this year's test schedule.

■ **When will my child take the ELA and math tests this year?**

This year, students who take the grades 3-8 New York State ELA and math tests will take the ELA test in April and the math test in May.

TEST	DATE
ELA	
Grades 3, 5, 7, 8	April 26 - 27
Grades 4, 6	April 26 - 28
Make-up	April 27 - May 5
Math	
Grades 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	May 5 - 6
Grade 4	May 5 - 7
Make-up	May 6 - 14

The full 2009-10 testing calendar is online at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/YearlyTesting/TestAdministration/default.html>.

■ **Can my child take the test on the make-up dates?**

Students can take tests on the make-up dates only when they have been absent due to illness or emergency. Families should make every effort to ensure that their children are in school during the administration of both tests.

■ **Do the new test dates affect what my child will learn in school this year?**

No. The state's academic standards which outline what your child needs to learn in each grade have not changed. As always, the ELA and math tests will assess the skills your child should learn by the date of the test administration. The only difference this year is that the tests are being administered later in the school year. For more information about what your child is learning in school this year, see the Great Expectations guide for your child's grade. To see a Great Expectations guide, contact your Parent Coordinator or visit <http://www.nyc.gov/schools/Academics/Great+Expectations>.

■ **Will the test format be similar to the tests from previous years?**

Yes.

■ **When will my child's test scores be available?**

Your child's test scores are expected to be available in ARIS Parent Link (arisparentlink.org) this summer. For information about how to log in to ARIS Parent Link, contact the Parent Coordinator at your child's school.

■ **Will the new test schedule affect the criteria for being promoted to the next grade?**

No. As in previous years, children who do not meet promotion standards during the school year will attend summer school and may need to pass an alternate ELA or math test at the end of the summer. As always, your child's principal and superintendent will make the final decision about promotion to the next grade.

■ **How can I prepare my child for the tests?**

- > Make sure your child is completing and understanding schoolwork and homework.
- > Have regular conversations with your child's teacher, to discuss your child's academic strengths and weaknesses and the ways you can reinforce learning at home.
- > Visit ARIS Parent Link at <http://arisparentlink.org> to follow your child's progress in school and identify areas in which he or she may need extra help.
- > Read the Parent's Guide to the ELA and Math State Testing Program, available online at www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/parentguide/eng-webprint.pdf. Please note that this guide has not yet been updated to reflect the new test dates.