

Options for Demonstrating Proficiency in the Essential Skills

Students who entered 9th grade in 2008-09 must demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skill of reading to obtain an Oregon diploma. Students who entered 9th grade in 2009-10 must demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of reading and writing, while students who entered 9th grade in 2010 and beyond must demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of reading, writing and applying mathematics. There are several options available for students.

The table below shows test options approved by the State Board of Education for reading and math.

	Reading	Applying Math
OAKS	236	236
ACT	18	19
PLAN	18	19
Work Keys	5	5
Compass	81	66 (Intermediate Algebra Test)
ASSET	42	41 (Intermediate Algebra Test)
SAT	440	450
PSAT	44	45
Accuplacer (Reading Comprehension)	86	N/A
Advanced Placement Tests that count for mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Statistics • AP Calculus AB • AP Calculus BC 		3
Advanced Placement Tests that count for reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP English Literature & Composition • AP Macroeconomics • AP Microeconomics • AP Psychology • AP United States History • AP European History • AP World History • AP United States Government & Politics • AP Comparative Government & Politics 	3	
International Baccalaureate Tests that count for mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB Mathematics SL • IB Mathematics HL • IB Math Studies 		4

	Reading	Applying Math
International Baccalaureate Tests that count for reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB English Language • IB History of Americas • IB History of Europe • IB 20th Century Topics • IB Economics • IB Psychology • IB Social Anthropology 	4	

Writing

The table below shows the test options approved by the State Board of Education.

	Writing
OAKS	40*
ACT Writing	19**
SAT Writing	460**

* a composite score of 40 (with an average score of 4 on each required trait)

** *These achievement standards are based on the composite score derived from both the selected response and direct-writing portions of the test. The SAT refers to this as the Writing section of the SAT (49 selected response questions and a timed, 25-minute essay). The ACT refers to this as the combined English/Writing test (75 selected response questions and a timed, 30-minute essay).*

Work Samples

Students may meet essential skill requirements using work samples scored with the official state scoring guides.

Reading

Students must produce 2 reading work samples, at least one of which must be informative. (Students could have 1 informative and 1 literary work sample or 2 informative work samples.) Each work sample must have a total score of 12 or higher, with no trait lower than 3. Traits are Demonstrate General Understanding, Develop an Interpretation, and Analyze Text.

Writing

Students must complete 2 writing work samples, at least one of which must be expository or persuasive, the other may be in any of the approved modes (expository, persuasive, narrative). Scores on each work sample must be 4 or higher in the required traits of Ideas/ Content, Organization, Sentence Fluency and Conventions.

Applying Mathematics

Students must complete 2 mathematics problem solving tasks, one each for any two of the required content strands – Algebra, Geometry, or Statistics. Each work sample must score 4 or higher in all five Process Dimensions. The five Process Dimensions are “Making Sense of the Task,” “Representing and Solving the Task,” “Communicating Reasoning,” “Accuracy,” and “Reflecting and Evaluating.”