

# → PARENT GUIDE TO THE STATE PLACEMENT TEST ←

Students transferring into Louisiana public schools and enrolling in grade 5 or grade 9 from any **in-state nonpublic school, approved home study program, or out-of-state school**, are required to take the English language arts (ELA) and mathematics portions of the appropriate State Placement Test to inform placement decisions and help determine any supports needed to assist struggling students. Students with LEAP 2025 results from the most recent year shall not participate in the State Placement Tests. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) created this fact sheet to provide parents with general information about the test and what you and your child can expect when he or she takes the test.

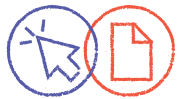


## KNOW THE TEST

### ELA AND MATH

Each test is a computer-based test that is designed to measure students' knowledge and skills in ELA and math pursuant to **Louisiana Student Standards** in grade 4 and grade 8. Each portion of the test, ELA and Math, has three sessions.

**The State Placement Test is just one of several indicators, such as report cards and other assessments, that are used to create a complete picture of a student's readiness for the next grade level.** The results from the test will be used to help school systems determine grade placement. Fourth grade students who score below "Basic" must be placed on an individual academic improvement plan. Placement decisions for students entering grade 9 include the possibility of students being placed in transitional 9th grade.



## TESTING LOGISTICS

### STATE PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE

**Students will take the State Placement Test in ELA and math online.**

Each session is strictly timed, and no additional time is permitted except for students who have a documented extended time accommodation.

The school system in which your child is enrolling will administer the test according to the processes and schedule determined by the school system.

Session	ELA	Math
1	90 minutes	75 minutes
2	75 minutes	75 minutes
3	75 minutes	75 minutes

## TEST RESULTS

**School systems will receive individual student results no later than 4-7 days after a student completes all test sessions. School systems will use these results along with other evidence to determine grade placement and supports needed for your child.**

**View the Parent Guide to the State Placement Test Student Reports** to learn more about the results and why they matter for your child.



**FOR ONLINE ACCESS TO ALL ASSESSMENT RESOURCES, visit the Family Support Toolbox at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/family-support-toolbox>.**

PARENT GUIDE TO THE  
→ STATE PLACEMENT TEST STUDENT REPORTS ←

**HOW DID MY CHILD PERFORM ON THE STATE PLACEMENT TEST?**

At the top of each report is your child's overall performance information including:

- overall achievement level,
- overall scale score, and
- the type of support your child will need based on his or her performance on the test.

The chart below outlines what each of the achievement levels means in terms of how well your child met the expectations for that grade and subject. The achievement levels considered as passing the State Placement Test are Basic, Mastery, and Advanced. **The score ranges change slightly across grade levels and subjects.**

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL PERFORMANCE	PARENTS STATE
Level 4	Advanced (80-100)	Exceeded Expectations
Level 3	Mastery (70-80)	Met Expectations
Level 2	Basic (60-70)	Needs Help/Expectations
Level 1	Approaching Basic (50-60)	Needs Help/Expectations
Level 0	Approaching (40-50)	Expectations Not Met

Performance is also broken down into subcategories within each subject, as shown in the example below. In each subcategory, your child is provided a rating of one to three stars, with a description of performance in this specific area and the support needed moving forward.

**HOW SHOULD I, OR MY CHILD'S TEACHER, USE THESE RESULTS?**

The scores and ratings will be used to make grade placement decisions about your child and help teachers identify students who need additional support or more challenging work in each subject area.

**As a parent, you can use the test results to guide a discussion with your child's teacher(s) about additional supports or enrichment that may be needed in class and at home.**

**HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN DISCUSSING THE RESULTS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER(S):**

- Where is my child doing well and where does he or she need improvement?
- What can be done in the classroom to help improve his or her area(s) of weakness?
- What can be done to appropriately challenge my child in areas where he or she exceeds the expectations?
- How can I help support my child's learning at home?
- How do we ensure that my child continues to progress?

**FOR ADDITIONAL TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING AT HOME, visit the Family Support Toolbox at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/family-support-toolbox>.**

**THIS IS AN ELA SAMPLE.** The math performance overview uses a three-star rating system.

DEPARTMENT of  
EDUCATION  
Louisiana Believes

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For more information about the State Placement Test, email the Department at [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).