



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

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May 13, 2020

To: Students enrolled in Grade 10 during the 2019/2020 school year
Teachers of Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA)
Administrators of schools with students in Grade 10

RE: Graduation requirements for students enrolled in Grade 10

The Florida Department of Education requires students to earn a passing score on the Grade 10 ELA Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to earn a standard high school diploma. The following guidance is provided on the state and local modifications to this requirement due to school closures.

For students currently enrolled in Grade 10,

- The requirement to take the Grade 10 ELA FSA this year is waived.
- The requirement to earn a passing score on the Grade 10 ELA FSA is not waived and students must earn a passing score in subsequent administrations of the test or earn a concordant score using the SAT or ACT.

Therefore, to comply with the need for students to demonstrate proficiency on the Grade 10 ELA FSA using a FLDOE-approved assessment the following guidance is provided.

Students enrolled in Grade 10 during the 2019/2020 school year should plan on meeting the requirement **by earning a Level 3, 4, or 5 on a future Grade 10 ELA FSA administration.** The State provides retakes for this exam several times per year, with the first attempt in the Fall of 2020. Students can also meet a concordant score by:

- Earning a minimum score of 480 on an SAT English (EBRW) administration, **or**
- Earning a minimum score of 17.5 on the average of the English and Reading scores on ACT.

Students earning a concordant score do not have to take the Grade 10 ELA FSA, which means **one less test to take.** Therefore, it is recommended for students to focus their preparation on their college readiness examination of an SAT or ACT at the time they would normally take these examinations during their development. BCPS provides a free opportunity for all students to take the SAT during the school day in the Spring of their 11th grade year. Additionally, students may register for multiple SAT or ACT examinations at their convenience for a fee. Both the College Board (SAT) and ACT, Inc. (ACT) provide fee waivers based on family income.

Further information and additional resources can be found at the following:

- State of Florida, Department of Education: <http://www.fldoe.org/>
- College Board, SAT: <https://pages.collegeboard.org/sat-covid-19-updates>
- ACT, Inc., ACT: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid19.html>

Questions related to the ELA proficiency requirement for graduation should be directed to the student's school counselor.