

Dear Parent / Guardian,

The statewide End-of-Course Examination Program (EOCEP) assessment will occur at the end of this semester for your student as a result of their enrollment in: Algebra 1, Intermediate Algebra, Biology 1, English 1 (only for enrolled students in their 3rd or 4th year of high school), English 2, and/or United States History and the Constitution. The EOCEP encourages instruction in the specific standards for the courses, inspires student achievement, and documents the level of students' mastery of the academic standards.

To meet federal and state accountability requirements, the EOCEP must be administered to all public school students enrolled in the above listed courses, including those students as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and by Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). In a memo dated July 14, 2020, the South Carolina Department of Education directed districts to facilitate “onsite testing consistent with all test administration procedures and requirements for test security, validity, and reliability.”

As a result of the historic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, State Superintendent Molly Spearman utilized the authority granted to her under Act 135, for the 2020-2021 school year, to waive the requirement that EOCEP assessments account for 20 percent of the total course grade. As students are still required to take the assessments, input was gathered from Charleston County School District high school principals and teacher representatives to develop guidance for the weighting of these assessments. The determination for the Charleston County School District for the 2020-2021 school year is as follows: All students enrolled in a designated EOCEP course will be administered, onsite, the corresponding assessment. A teacher-made final comprehensive exam will also be administered to all students enrolled in these courses. Teachers will apply the higher of the two grades earned on the EOCEP exam or the teacher-made final exam as the 20 percent course grade exam requirement for all EOCEP courses.

These assessments can take place between May 21, 2021 and June 18, 2021 with specific dates and times chosen by each school and published on their school website. The Department of Education provides paper copies of Individual Student Reports for each examination which schools will provide to parents when students return to school in August.

For more information regarding the EOCEP examination program, please visit: <https://ed.sc.gov/tests/high/eocep/> or contact your school's testing coordinator.

Sincerely,



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