

Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System - NSCAS English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science

Nebraska students are tested with the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System, NSCAS, tests in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science. Spring of 2017, the ELA portion of the statewide assessment transitioned from Legacy standards to the more rigorous Nebraska College and Career Ready (CCR) standards. The mathematics assessment made this transition during the spring of 2018. Science assessments transitioned to CCR standards in the spring of 2021.

**Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System
NSCAS - ELA, Mathematics, Science**

Subject	Year Started	Standards Alignment	Grades Tested
ELA	2017	CCR	Grades 3-8, and HS 3 rd -Yr Cohort
Mathematics	2018	CCR	Grades 3-8, and HS 3 rd -Yr Cohort
Science	2021	CCR	Grades 5, 8, and HS 3 rd -Yr Cohort

Following are the scale score and achievement levels for each NSCAS test:

NSCAS Growth/General Science

Grade	Scale Score Ranges		
	Developing	On Track	Advanced
ELA			
3	2220-2442	2443-2535	2536-2840
4	2250-2492	2493-2566	2567-2850
5	2280-2503	2504-2582	2583-2860
6	2290-2517	2518-2593	2594-2870
7	2300-2526	2527-2608	2609-2880
8	2310-2523	2524-2623	2624-2890
Math			
3	1000-1175	1176-1296	1297-1470
4	1010-1207	1208-1330	1331-1500
5	1020-1206	1207-1319	1320-1510
6	1030-1227	1228-1320	1321-1530
7	1040-1211	1212-1313	1314-1540
8	1050-1230	1231-1318	1319-1550
Science			
5 & 8	3000-3099	3100-3149	3150-3250

NSCAS Alternate

Grade	Scale Score Ranges		
ELA	Developing	On Track	Advanced
3	Below 200	200-249	250-300
4	Below 200	200-249	250-300
5	Below 200	200-249	250-300
6	Below 200	200-249	250-300
7	Below 200	200-249	250-300
8	Below 200	200-249	250-300
HS 3 rd -Yr*	Below 200	200-249	250-300
Math	Developing	On Track	Advanced
3	Below 200	200-249	250-300
4	Below 200	200-249	250-300
5	Below 200	200-249	250-300
6	Below 200	200-249	250-300
7	Below 200	200-249	250-300
8	Below 200	200-249	250-300
HS 3 rd -Yr*	Below 200	200-249	250-300
Science	Developing	On Track	Advanced
5,8, & HS 3 rd -Yr*	Below 200	200-249	250-300

*Students who are in their third year of cohort at the high school level will participate in the NSCAS-ACT or NSCAS-Alternate Assessments.

Definitions of NSCAS Growth/General Science and Alternate achievement levels for ELA, Mathematics, and Science

- **Advanced:** Advanced learners demonstrate high levels proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.
- **On Track:** On Track learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.
- **Developing:** Developing learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student may need additional support for academic success at the next grade level.

The percentage of overall proficiency in meeting the standards is calculated based upon the percentage of students scoring “On Track” and “Advanced” levels.

ACT

HS 3rd-Year Cohort*	Scale Score Ranges		
	Developing	On Track	ACT Benchmark
ELA	1-17	18-19	20-36
Math	1-17	18-21	22-36
Science	1-18	19-22	23-36

*Students who are in their third year of cohort at the high school level will participate in the ACT or NSCAS-Alternate Assessments.

Definitions of ACT achievement levels

ACT Benchmark: Students that meet or exceed the ACT College Readiness Benchmark are equipped to enroll (without remediation) and succeed in a credit-bearing first-year course at a two-year or four-year institution, trade school, or technical school. Students have at least a 50% chance of getting a B or better and a 75% chance of getting C or better in a first-year related content course.

On Track: On Track students are approaching the ACT College Readiness Benchmark and are likely to be able to access credit-bearing first-year related content course at some Nebraska postsecondary institutions without remediation.

Developing: Students in the Developing Level are likely to need developmental courses before being able to access credit-bearing first-year courses in the majority Nebraska postsecondary institutions.

The percentage of overall proficiency in meeting the standards is calculated based upon the percentage of students scoring "On Track" and "ACT Benchmark" levels.

Performance by Group

Student performance on NSCAS is reported by various groups required by state and federal legislation. These groups include gender, race/ethnicity, eligibility for free/reduced price meals, migrant, special education, English Language Learners, and highly-mobile students.

DATA SOURCE: Nebraska Student and Staff Record System