

SAMPLE TEST QUESTIONS

Sample questions are available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/wkce.html>. These questions are similar to actual test questions that may be asked on the WKCE. Current WKCE test questions are not released. Actual questions are available for inspection after the test administration; contact your school.

WISCONSIN MODEL ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Academic standards specify what students should know and be able to do. They include content, performance, and proficiency standards.

Information on the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards can be accessed at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/wkce.html>.

The assessment frameworks provide more specific information on the knowledge and skills that will be tested in the Reading, Mathematics, and Science sections of the WKCE at each grade level. This information can be accessed at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/wkce.html>.



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WISCONSIN KNOWLEDGE AND CONCEPTS EXAMINATION

Student/Parent
Pre-Test Information



2012–13



For more information, contact
oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov.

A NOTE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

What is the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS)?

The Wisconsin Student Assessment System is a statewide assessment program designed to provide information about what students know in core academic areas as defined by the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards. The Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE) is one component of WSAS.

The WSAS also includes the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD). For more information about the WAA-SwD, please refer to the WAA-SwD Student/Parent Pre-Test Brochure, available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/publications.html>.

Statewide assessments are given to all students in grades 3–8 and 10.

What is the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination?

This standardized test includes questions customized specifically for Wisconsin and some commercially developed questions used in schools across the country. The WKCE measures achievement in Reading and Mathematics, using multiple-choice and short-answer questions. The WKCE for grades 4, 8, and 10 also measures achievement in Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Writing.

How are the test results used?

The WKCE test results provide parents with information about student achievement. To obtain a more complete picture, daily

classwork, other test results, homework, and other learning activities should be considered. Please talk to teachers and counselors about how the WKCE information can be used together with school and classroom information to help your child meet his or her educational goals. School district staff use test results to improve educational programs.

WKCE results are also used by the Department of Public Instruction to:

- meet its statutory requirement of identifying low-performing schools as stipulated by s. 115.38(4), Wisconsin Statutes;
- meet the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requirement of using high-quality assessments to determine how well students are learning;
- meet the federal Title I (ESEA) requirement to determine adequate progress in Title I schools; and
- determine the extent to which schools and districts across the state meet the Wisconsin proficiency standards.

What type of scores will be provided?

The WKCE provides information about what students know and can do in relation to the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards. Students receive scores based on their performance.

- **Advanced** — Students at this level demonstrate a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of rigorous subject matter, and provide sophisticated solutions to complex problems.
- **Proficient** — Students at this level demonstrate a solid understanding of challenging subject matter and solve a wide variety of problems.

- **Basic** — Students at this level demonstrate partial mastery of prerequisite knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work.
- **Minimal Performance** — Students at this level demonstrate limited knowledge and skills in the subject matter, as well as limited ability to apply knowledge and skills effectively.

When does WKCE testing take place?

WKCE testing for the 2012–13 school year takes place between October 22 and November 23, 2012. The total time required for the administration of the tests varies by grade and ranges from 3½ to 6½ hours. Testing may be spread out over several days. Schools set their own testing schedules. If a student is absent during testing, it is important that a makeup opportunity be scheduled.

How to prepare your child for the WKCE

Make sure that your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast. Avoid any disruptions in your child's daily routines during testing days.

Review of the WKCE

Sample copies of each grade level WKCE test will be made available for review under secure conditions in each school and school district, upon completion of the testing window.