



2020 End-of-Course Assessments – COVID-19 Guidance

End-of-Course (EOC) Exceptions

EOC exceptions collection should continue to be used to identify graduates that did not meet participation requirements for EOC assessment for the following reasons:

- EOCEX2: Student received content out-of-state or in a private, parochial or home school.
- EOCEX3: MAP-Alternate – Students identified by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team received content without an alternate assessment available. Currently this is only applicable to social studies.
- EOCEX4: Student took content in another public Missouri district, but was not assessed.

Participation on the required EOC assessments of Algebra I, English II, Biology, American Government and [additional high school mathematics, if required](#), is calculated in the year a student graduates. To determine if a graduate participated in the EOC assessments:

Step 1: The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) looks at the history of each graduate’s assessment records to identify any missing requirements.

Step 2: DESE looks to see if each graduate had a specific circumstance that prevented them from taking any of the state assessments filed by the district from which the student graduated. If a graduate does not have a record of an assessment or an exception, then a Level Not Determined (LND) assessment record will be assigned for the missing assessment in the year a student graduated. To identify students with significant cognitive disabilities that graduated by earning some or all required credits through modified classes aligned with alternate state standards or by meeting IEP goals, the exception EOCEX3 – MAP-Alternate submitted for the American Government assessment, along with the appropriate graduation exit code, is used.

2020 Waived EOC Assessments

Due to extended school closures as a result of COVID-19, DESE received approval to waive certain requirements in section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, related to assessment and accountability requirements. This waiver will allow Missouri to:

- Waive assessments required under the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA). Missouri will also waive the state required social studies assessment.
- Waive the requirements to report ESSA required items on the State, local education agency (LEA) or building report cards.

Along with the receipt of the waiver for assessments and accountability, the participation calculation for 2020 graduates will not be calculated and exception reporting is not necessary for 2020 students that graduated with a regular diploma.

For students who graduate after 2020, DESE will use certified MOSIS spring EOC precode and test enrollment records from the test vendor submitted by districts prior to school closures to apply an exemption code. DESE will also use each district's certified 2020 June Course Completion file submitted in MOSIS to apply an exemption code for those students who have successfully completed a course with a required EOC assessment. Students with an "F" in the course completion file will need to take the EOC or count as an LND in future APR years. With the creation of these 2020 exemption/participation records, these records will be stored in each student's assessment history and will satisfy Step 1, mentioned earlier, in the determination of a graduate's participation on all required assessments.

Grade 8 students may not use a passing grade in algebra as their high school math participation. The release of the 2020 EOC participation data is still to be determined and additional information will be provided when available.