

Earning Credit through Demonstrating Subject Area Competency ('Test Out')

Overview and Registration Form

In the 2017-2018 school year, eligible students will have the opportunity to 'Test Out' of a high school course if they meet the eligibility requirement. In order to 'Test Out', a student may participate in the administration of an End-of-Course assessment prior to enrolling in or have previously taken the course. If the student scores at the "Distinguished Learner" level on the state assessment, he or she will be awarded credit for that course.

What do I need to know about 'Test Out'?

- Only high school courses with a Ga Milestones End-of-Course assessment are eligible for 'Test Out'. In Cobb County, those courses include: Algebra I, Geometry, United States History, Economics, Biology, Physical Science, 9th Grade Literature and Composition, and American Literature and Composition
- A student must score at the "Distinguished Learner" level in order to earn the course credit.
- A student is only given one opportunity to earn the "Distinguished Learner" level.
- A student may earn up to three credits through 'Test Out'.
- A student who is currently enrolled in the course or has previously been enrolled in the course is not eligible to test out. Also, a student who is currently enrolled in or has previously been enrolled in a higher level course is not eligible to test out.
- A student will earn on-level course credit if the 'Test Out' is successful. Quality points nor honors level distinction will be available for course credit earned through 'Test Out'.
- Students who score "Distinguished Learner" will have the course and EOC grade recorded on the transcript. The EOC grade will NOT be calculated into the student's high school GPA, however it will be counted by HOPE into the HOPE GPA.
- The University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia will consider credits earned through 'Test Out'.
- The NCAA will NOT recognize the credits earned through 'Test Out'.

When can I 'Test Out'?

- There are specific 'Test Out' windows. In the 2017-2019 school year, the 'Test Out' options include:
 - September 2017 – for School Year 2017-2018 spring semester courses only.
 - March 2018 – for School Year 2018-2019 fall courses and full year courses.

How do I register to 'Test Out'?

- To be eligible to 'Test Out' a student must have met the following criteria:
 - Earned a B or better in a previous course that is in the same content area of the course for which the student is attempting to 'Test Out'.
 - Complete a registration form that includes a teacher recommendation in the previous course and parent/guardian permission by the deadline established by the student's high school.
- The registration form must be completed by the student and include the appropriate signatures and submitted by the deadline established by the student's high school.
- There is a \$50 state administration fee that will be reimbursed by the high school if the student scores in the "Distinguished Learner" level.

What should I consider?

- 'Test Out' of a course does not suggest that a student will have had exposure to all of the pre-requisite content needed for success in subsequent courses. Parents and students should consider cautiously how earning credits through 'Test Out' will prepare them for the remaining rigorous, high school courses.
- When considering whether 'Test Out' is right for you, parents, students, and counselors should consider the student's four-year graduation plan, graduation requirements, local school GPA, NCAA requirements, and future advanced and accelerated learning opportunities.

Earning Course Credit through Subject Area Competency – ‘Test Out’ Registration

A. Student Name _____

B. Student Grade Level (current) _____

C. ‘Test Out’ Course _____ (a separate registration form is required for each course)

D. Verification of “B” or better in previous course in the same content area as the EOC interested in ‘Test Out’.

By signing below, I have reviewed the student’s transcript and can confirm that a grade of “B” or better was earned in the previous course.

Guidance Counselor Signature _____

Date _____

E. Teacher recommendation.

By signing below, I recommend [with / without] reservation for the student above to participate in the ‘Test Out’ opportunity for the following course: _____

Teacher Signature _____

Date _____

Subject Area/Course _____

F. Parent/Guidance Permission

By signing below, I verify that I have talked with my child about the ‘Test Out’ option and we have reviewed the long term impact of ‘Test Out’ of a course during high school. I grant permission for my child to participate in the ‘Test Out’ administration for the following course: _____. I understand my responsibility to pay the \$50 state administration fee and will only expect reimbursement if the state score on my child’s test is in the “Distinguished Learner” level.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Phone Number _____