



Florida Civic Literacy Examination (FCLE)

Test Administration and Development Overview



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

www.FLDOE.org



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

The History of the Florida Civic Literacy Exam

Florida Civic Literacy Requirement

- Florida Statutes
 - [1007.25\(4\)](#)
 - [1003.4282\(3\)\(d\)](#)
 - [1008.23\(1\)](#)
 - [1008.24\(1\)](#)
- Board of Governors Regulation
 - [8.006](#)
- Florida College System Rule
 - [6A-10.02413](#)

Initial Development

- In 2018, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Office of Assessment worked with the Board of Governors (BOG) and the Florida College System (FCS) to develop what is now known as the FCLE.
- FDOE partnered with the Lou Frey Institute (LFI) at the University of Central Florida for content area and test development expertise.
- After working with LFI on item reviews and edits to address bias, accuracy and readability, FDOE worked with subject matter experts (SMEs) to review the items and conducted Bias and Sensitivity/Validation committee meetings.
- Following a final review by LFI, FDOE approved the initial Florida Civic Literacy Examination.

Initial Administrations

- The FCLE was first provided to FCS and State University System (SUS) schools during the 2018–19 school year and to public K–12 school districts during the 2019–20 school year as a 100- question paper-based, multiple-choice test.
- Due to the COVID pandemic, the FCLE was used in K–12 public schools on a limited basis during the 2019–20 and 2020–21 school years.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Revised FCLE Content

Updates to the FCLE

- In early 2021, the FDOE began the process to revise the FCLE and to take steps to increase test security.
- A review was conducted by 30 content experts representing faculty from FCS, SUS, LFI, and the Bill of Rights Institute in July 2021.
- The revised version of the FCLE addresses the same content as the previous version, and is shorter, with 80 test items, rather than 100.
- The passing score is currently anticipated to remain 60%.

Goal and Objective of Item Review

- The goal of the July 2021 item review meeting was to review a selection of proposed FCLE test questions, specifically to ensure the items better assess the competencies, are accurate, and that they better represent the overall goals of the FCLE.
- Additionally, the meeting offered SMEs the opportunity to provide important feedback on the FCLE for future development work and consideration.

FCLE Competencies

- Test items for the FCLE are based on competencies that describe the content to be covered by a test.
- FCLE competencies cover the knowledge necessary to demonstrate the postsecondary requirement for civic literacy, as outlined in statute:
 - Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government;
 - An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application;
 - Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government; and
 - An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, and landmark executive actions, and their impact on law and society.

Target Test-Taking Population

- FCLE test items are written for a Florida high school or first-time-in-college postsecondary examinee who has sufficient knowledge of the four competencies described on the previous slide:
 - American democracy;
 - the U.S. Constitution;
 - the founding documents; and
 - landmark legislative, executive, and judicial actions.
- K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions will make local determinations about where dual enrollment students will take the FCLE (at HS or college/university).

Target Test-Taking Population

- While students who are taking AMHX020 or POSX041 to meet U.S. Government course requirements are required to take the FCLE, FCS and SUS professors teaching those courses are not expected to modify the courses to incorporate the FCLE outcomes.
- Institutions may choose to use FCLE scores as part of course grades, but are not required to do so. This is a local decision.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

FCLE Administration

Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI) Test Platform for the FCLE

The use of the CAI test platform for the FCLE offers the following values of a singular platform for security and psychometrics:

- Consistency with state statute and best practices;
- Ability to maintain integrity of the test;
- Preservation of validity and test security; and
- Ability to collect and analyze student performance data.
 - Ensures representation of SUS and FCS student achievement.
 - Statewide aggregate performance provides insights not otherwise available through local test administrations.
 - Allows for setting performance standards, rather than relying solely on percent-correct to establish achievement expectations.

CAI Test Platform for the FCLE (cont.)

- Additional benefits of a single test administration platform include:
 - Provides for field testing and replenishment of the test item bank.
 - Accommodations for students with disabilities are available.
 - The test is provided at no additional cost to FCS, SUS, or students.
 - Institutions are free to determine if there are other costs to recover related to their own implementation, as is the case for some institutions currently using the original form.
 - Allows for remote proctoring options for different environments.

NOTE: The revised version may NOT be administered as an un-proctored test.

The Florida Association of College Test Administrators (FACTA)

- FDOE has worked in close coordination with FACTA, which includes SUS members, to ensure we are meeting institutions' needs.
- For example, FACTA's recommendations led directly to the following features & policies:
 - A broad testing window to offer maximum flexibility. This year's window is October 25, 2021–August 5, 2022, and will be expanded even further for 2022-2023.
 - Recommendation of 30 days between attempts, however, students can retest on the next day if needed.
 - Unlimited number of attempts.

Test Preparation and Study Guides

- All of the preparation material available for the current form applies to the newer form. Such materials can be accessed at the [Postsecondary Civics Literacy](#) page on the FDOE website.
- FDOE will be working internally and with partners in the field to produce and publish additional study materials.
- Study materials will be validated by SMEs external to FDOE, will align to the competencies, and will be at the same level of rigor and complexity of the items seen by examinees.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

What's Next for the FCLE?

The Future of the FCLE

- Develop additional test items.
- Increase the number of available test forms.
- Field testing and data collection.
- Standard setting to recommend and establish passing scores.
- Test revision and research consistent with best practices and standards.
- Continued collaboration with stakeholders.



www.FLDOE.org



www.FLDOE.org