

School Grades Learning Gains Calculation for 2015-16

The 2015-16 school grades calculation will use the new learning gains methodology required by s. 1008.34 F.S. and Rule 6A-1.09981 F.A.C. for the first time. Based on Florida law and rule, learning gains are calculated for both FSA English Language Arts and FSA Mathematics. The new learning gains methodology provides three ways in which a student may demonstrate that he or she has made a learning gain.

1. Improve one or more achievement levels from one year to the next (e.g., move from Level 1 to Level 2; Level 2 to Level 4, etc.).
2. Maintain a Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 from one year to the next and the student's scores in Level 3 and Level 4 must have improved from one year to the next.
3. Split Levels 1 and 2 into multiple subcategories (Level 1 into thirds and Level 2 in half) and require the student to improve from one subcategory to a higher subcategory within the Level (e.g., move from the bottom third of Level 1 to the middle third of Level 1).

Students who improve one or more achievement levels from one year to the next

- All students who increase their score from one achievement level to a higher achievement level demonstrate a learning gain.

Students who maintain a Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 from one year to the next

- Learning gains for students who maintain a Level 3 or Level 4 are determined based on whether the student improves their score by at least one point.
- Because the scales for the FSA Mathematics and each mathematics FSA EOC are different, students who take a mathematics FSA EOC assessment in the current year and maintain a Level 3 or Level 4 from the prior year have demonstrated a learning gain. This is also true for learning gains calculated from a mathematics FSA EOC to the FSA Mathematics assessment.
- Students who score at Level 5 demonstrate learning gains if they remain at Level 5.

Students scoring in Level 1 or 2 and remaining in the same Achievement Level

- Learning gains for students who remain in Levels 1 and 2 are determined based on whether students increase their scores from one subcategory to a higher subcategory.
- Level 1 is split into three subcategories and Level 2 is split into two subcategories.
- A student that starts with a Low Level 1 score who makes a Learning Gain each year would reach Level 3 in five years.



Score Ranges for Each Achievement Level and Subcategory

The tables below provide the score ranges for each achievement level and each subcategory (Low, Middle, and High) within achievement levels.

FSA English Language Arts

Assessment	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
	Level 1	Low	Middle	High	Level 2	Low				High
Grade 3	240-284	240-254	255-269	270-284	285-299	285-292	293-299	300-314	315-329	330-360
Grade 4	251-296	251-266	267-281	282-296	297-310	297-303	304-310	311-324	325-339	340-372
Grade 5	257-303	257-272	273-288	289-303	304-320	304-312	313-320	321-335	336-351	352-385
Grade 6	259-308	259-275	276-292	293-308	309-325	309-317	318-325	326-338	339-355	356-391
Grade 7	267-317	267-283	284-300	301-317	318-332	318-325	326-332	333-345	346-359	360-397
Grade 8	274-321	274-289	290-305	306-321	322-336	322-329	330-336	337-351	352-365	366-403
Grade 9	276-327	276-293	294-310	311-327	328-342	328-335	336-342	343-354	355-369	370-407
Grade 10	284-333	284-300	301-317	318-333	334-349	334-341	342-349	350-361	362-377	378-412

Excerpts from: <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5637/urlt/2016SchoolGradesLearningGains.pdf>