

The North Carolina Computer Skills Alternate Assessment

Eligible Students

There are two distinct populations of students who are eligible to take the North Carolina Computer Skills Alternate Assessment:

- Students who cannot access the North Carolina Online Test of Computer Skills as a result of technical/technology limitations at the building level and
- Students with disabilities who, due to the nature of their disabilities, are not able to access the North Carolina Online Test of Computer Skills even with the available approved accommodations. The [Testing Students with Disabilities](#) document provides additional information on accommodations and guidelines for testing students with disabilities.



Proficiency Standard

The proficiency standard for the North Carolina Computer Skills Alternate Assessment (2004 curriculum) requires that a student achieve a scale score of 146 or above. The standard was adopted by the State Board of Education in March 2006.

Test Format

The North Carolina Computer Skills Alternate Assessment measures the strands set forth and specifically defined in the [North Carolina Computer/Technology Skills Standard Course of Study](#) adopted by the State Board of Education in February 2004. The assessment consists of a multiple-choice section, a performance section, and an overall student evaluation.

- The multiple-choice section consists of 35 multiple-choice items.
- The performance section consists of 25 computer-related tasks.
- The overall student evaluation requires the test administrator to rate the student's overall proficiency in the area of computer skills as demonstrated by the student's work samples and his or her use of a computer when performing activities in the classroom or computer lab over the current academic year.
- Both the multiple-choice items and the performance tasks focus on the strands from the [North Carolina Computer/Technology Skills Standard Course of Study \(February 2004\)](#).
 - The strands include societal/ethical issues, database, spreadsheet, keyboard utilization/word processing/desktop publishing, multimedia/presentation, and telecommunications/Internet.

Estimated Test Administration Time

Suggested scheduled testing time for the North Carolina Computer Skills Alternate Assessment is approximately 60 minutes for the administration of the multiple-choice section. Students who are not finished at the end of the estimated time must be given sufficient time to complete the assessment. However, no multiple-choice test administration (except for students with documented special needs requiring accommodations such as *Scheduled Extended Time* or *Multiple Testing Sessions*) may exceed 2½ hours. The estimated time to complete the performance section is 100 minutes. The performance section is teacher-administered, and the actual test administration time may vary.