



Steve Barnette  
Superintendent

Dear Parents of Middle School/High School Students:

Pursuant to statutorily-required provisions contained within the State Board of Education Rule regarding Awarding Units of Credit, students can “test out” of courses which have an associated Georgia Milestone End-of-Course (EOC) assessment. This provision impacts students wishing to complete the following four HS courses: American Literature, GSE Algebra I, US History, and Biology.

To qualify for this test-out option, students must:

- Not be currently or previously enrolled in the course for which the EOC is being attempted;
- Have earned a grade of B or better in the most recent course that is in the same content area of the course for which the student is attempting the EOC assessment;
- Have a recommendation from a teacher of a course in the same content area as outlined above (or, if not available, a teacher in the same content area with knowledge of the student’s academic achievement) for which the student is attempting the EOC assessment;
- Have parent/guardian permission if the student is less than 18 years of age; and,
- Have not tested out of more than three courses with three credits earned during his/her high school career.

When students attempt to earn course credit through test-out opportunity, the following state-established rules apply:

- Students must pay a \$50 registration fee. If a student scores at the “Distinguished” Performance Level, the test-out fee will be refunded;
- Students have only one opportunity per course to demonstrate subject area competency;
- Students must test during the state testing windows in accordance with the PCSD-approved testing calendar;
- If a student does not reach the performance level of “Distinguished” when attempting to test-out and the course is required for graduation, the student will be required to enroll in and complete the course and retake the EOC assessment even if the student made a passing score on the EOC assessment during the test-out attempt; and,
- A student may not test out of a course if he/she has been enrolled in a higher-level course in the same content area. For example, a student taking AP Physics may not earn credit for Physical Science through this option.

Testing out may not be recommended for student athletes who anticipate competing at the collegiate level. The NCAA Clearinghouse, which establishes athletic rules for college students, differs from state and local graduation rules and explicitly prohibits the use of “courses completed through credit-by-exam” for purposes of collegiate athletic eligibility.

Students who earn course credit by testing out (scoring “Distinguished” on the EOC assessment) will NOT have the opportunity to re-take the course at a future time to improve the course grade. The EOC assessment grade conversion score will be recorded on the transcript as the course grade and the transcript will reflect “course completed through credit-by-exam.” The student’s Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated utilizing the EOC assessment test-out grade conversion score. As such, it is important that students and parents realize that the test-out option will impact GPA and class ranking.

Additionally, the Georgia Student Finance Commission will include this score in the calculation for the HOPE Scholarship/Grant Program. *Note: The Georgia Student Finance Commission will only calculate HOPE GPA for students enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. For students who test-out during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year or prior, the scores will be included on the High School transcript however, these scores will not calculate into the HOPE GPA.*

Interested students should speak with their counselor regarding the test-out opportunity. Registration for the EOC assessment Test-Out Option will take place between August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>. **All completed applications and registration fees are due to the counselor no later than September 3<sup>rd</sup>.** The Georgia Milestone End-of-Course assessment will be administered during the week of September 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> at all middle and high schools (specific dates to be provided by the school).



## End-of-Course Test-Out Option Application/Permission/Recommendation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the EOC(s) Assessment you are requesting the opportunity to test-out:**

- ☐ Algebra I  
☐ Biology

- ☐ American Literature  
☐ U.S. History

### Teacher Recommendation

*I recommend that the student is a good candidate for the test-out option listed above and has/had maintained a grade average of B or higher in the course within the same content area for which the student is attempting to test-out.*

Teacher Name/Course \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Student Permission

*I have reviewed the student application requirements and have met with my counselor to discuss my participation in the test-out option and understand the impact it has on course requirements and GPA. I understand that I have only one opportunity per course to demonstrate subject area competency. I also understand that if I do not reach a performance level of "Distinguished" when attempting the test-out and the course is required for graduation, that I will be required to enroll in and complete the associated course and retake the EOC even if I have made a passing score on the EOC during the test-out attempt.*

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/Guardian Permission

*I have reviewed the student application requirements with my student. I understand that my son/daughter is aware of all the requirements for participation, and I agree with the commitment. I give my written consent for my student to attempt to test out of the course associated with the EOC(s) indicated above. I understand that there is a \$50 fee required for each EOC due at the end of the registration window, prior to taking the EOC and this fee will only be refunded if my son/daughter scores at the Distinguished level.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## ***Paulding County School District EOC Test-Out Option***



Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's ID \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Test-out Opportunity (Month) \_\_\_\_\_

The above student and his/her parent/guardian are requesting the opportunity to test-out of an EOC course.

<b>Date Received/Verified</b>	<b>Prerequisites</b>
	The student and/or parent, if the student is less than 18 years of age, has completed the EOC Test-out Permission/Recommendation Form complete with teacher signature.
	The student has earned a B average or better in the most recent course that is in the same content area of the course for which the student is attempting the EOC
	The student has not tested out of more than three courses with three credits earned during his/her high school career
	Student is not currently or previously enrolled in the course for which they are attempting to test-out
	The student has paid the \$50 registration fee per test
	This form along with the completed permission form including signature should be forwarded to the School Test Coordinator. The School Test Coordinator should provide a list of students participating in the "Test Out" Administration to the System Test Coordinator including student name, grade, race, ethnicity, and EOC name.

Comments: