

# TNCore and TNReady: What they mean for Shelby County Students



# What we say to parents



- Nationally, Tennessee students lag behind their peers in academic performance, and our students in Shelby County also lag behind their Tennessee counterparts. We simply must do things differently.
- TNCore are new state standards meant to help better prepare your child for college and career – the primary goal of the District’s Destination 2025 strategic plan. By tapping into critical thinking skills necessary for life outside the classroom, your student will learn more than how to memorize.
- TNReady is the new way of assessing students, measuring real understanding of the material. It gives your child multiple ways to show what they know and can do, with interactive and open-ended questions.
- TNCore and TNReady are both expected to be more rigorous and will initially result in lower test scores. State officials say that in the long run, your child will be learning at a more rapid rate.
- TNReady will provide a comprehensive academic check-up for your child. It will change over time as the math and English language arts standards are revised and improved.
- The assessment will be taken online to better prepare your child with the technological skills they will need to succeed in college or career.
- Online practice tools are already available for parents and students using the online test format. For more information and tools, visit [www.tn.gov/TNReady](http://www.tn.gov/TNReady)



# What we say to educators



- Currently, our students are lagging behind their peers. We simply must do things differently to ensure our students learn at a more rapid rate.
- TNCore represents a new way of teaching, and the TNReady assessment measures students' real understanding of the material. The assessment gives students multiple ways to show what they know and can do, with interactive and open-ended questions.
- You should expect the new assessment to be more rigorous, possibly resulting in lower test scores than in the past, as we set a new baseline for student performance. The state recognizes the evaluative challenge this could pose for teachers, so students' growth based on the first year of TNReady results will account for a smaller percentage of the teacher's overall evaluation score.
- TNReady will provide a comprehensive academic check-up including detailed information on students' academic progress. It will change over time as the math and English language arts standards are revised and improved.
- Training and PD opportunities surrounding TNCore and TNReady are available for teachers at [My Learning Plan](#).
- The assessment will be administered in two parts at different times per year to ensure proper preparation time and a focus on learning objectives. Schools will have greater flexibility in scheduling TNReady, and will have multiple weeks to complete testing.



# What we say to students

- TNReady is the new way of measuring your knowledge of math and English, with multiple ways to show what you know and how you arrived at your answers.
- TNReady pushes you towards Destination 2025, preparing you for college and career by tapping into critical thinking skills necessary for success after graduation.
- Students in grades 3 through 11 will take the assessment in two parts at different times per year to make sure there is enough time for you to practice and focus on learning.
- Online practice tools, including sample questions, are already available for you using the online test format. For more information and tools, visit [www.tn.gov/TNReady](http://www.tn.gov/TNReady).



## Important Dates to Remember

- Break MIST Day – October 1
  - This one-time event is designed to test the capacity of MIST (the online platform for TNReady), assess the network and server capacity, and provide a check of the school's internet, hardware, and logistical readiness.
- First TNReady Practice Testing Block – September 28 to October 30
- Second TNReady Practice Testing Block – January 4 to February 6
- TNReady Assessment, Part I – February 2016
- TNReady Assessment, Part II – April 2016

