

### SCPASS 2016 Test Schedule

Grades 4–8	Paper/Pencil Administration	Online Administration
Science	May 11 (Wednesday)	May 11–May 27
Social Studies	May 12 (Thursday)	May 11–May 27
Make-up Testing	Through May 19	

#### Links to Additional Information

More detailed information about SCPASS is located on the South Carolina Department of Education Web site at:

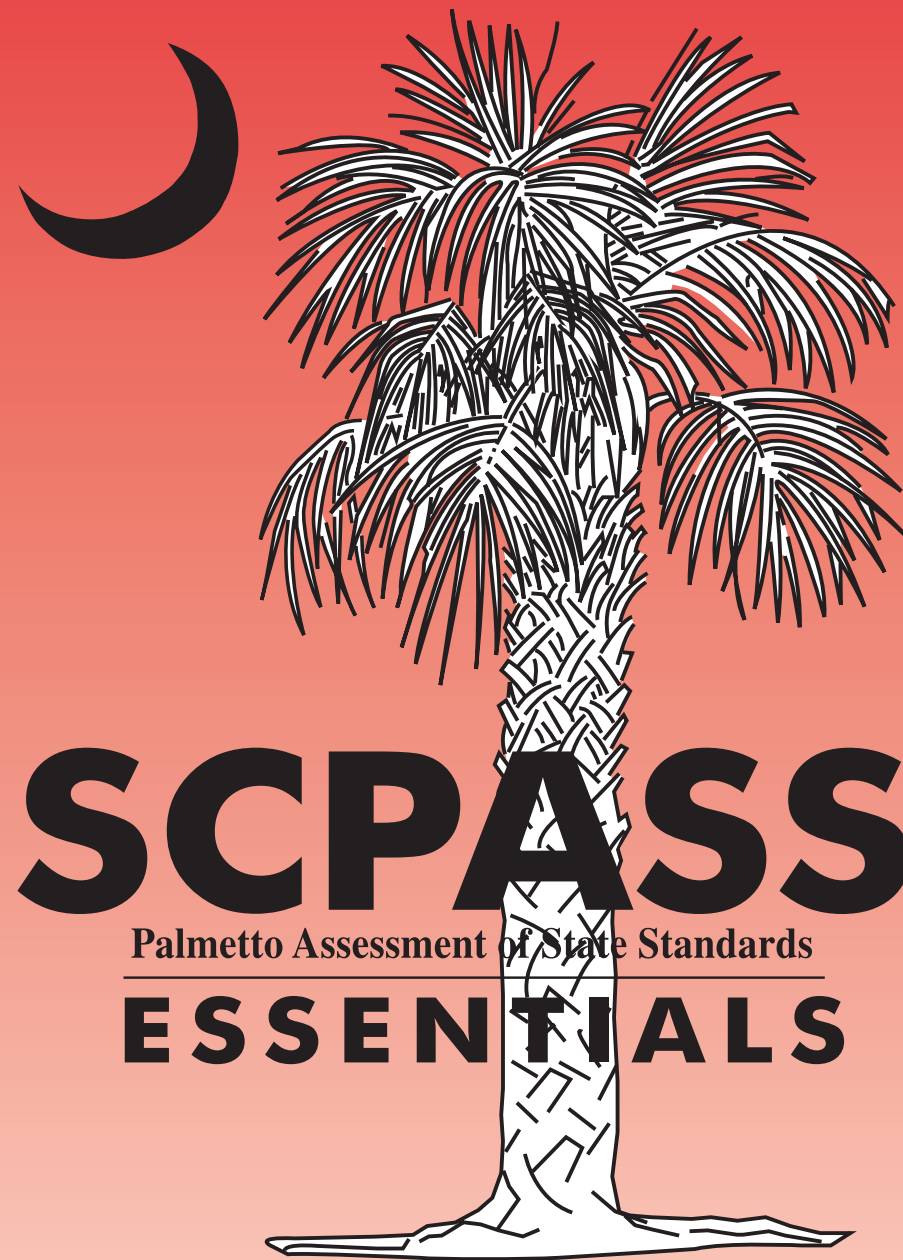
<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/>.

For more information on SCPASS science, visit:

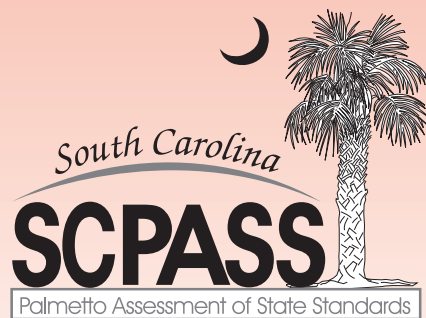
<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/scpass-test-blueprints/scpass-science/>.

For more information on SCPASS social studies, visit:

<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/scpass/scpass-test-blueprints/scpass-social-studies/>.



**A Brochure for Students and Parents**



The South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) is a statewide assessment in science and social studies administered to South Carolina students in grades four through eight.



### Participation Essentials

- ◆ All students in grades 4–8 must participate in the SCPASS science and social studies tests.
- ◆ Students in the *third grade are not tested* in science and social studies.
- ◆ Students with disabilities must participate in SCPASS with the appropriate accommodations, if necessary, or in the South Carolina Alternate Assessment (SC-Alt). The SC-Alt assesses students with significant cognitive disabilities.
- ◆ English language learners (ELLs) must also participate in the SCPASS science and social studies tests with the appropriate accommodations, if necessary.

### Test Essentials

- ◆ SCPASS science items are aligned with the 2005 South Carolina Science Academic Standards.
- ◆ SCPASS social studies items are aligned with the 2011 South Carolina Social Studies Academic Standards.
- ◆ SCPASS science and social studies tests will be administered online (computer-based) or with paper-and-pencil.
- ◆ Science and social studies tests *are not timed*.
- ◆ Science and social studies tests contain test questions with varying degrees of difficulty.



### Score Essentials

- ◆ Student results are given as scale scores and performance levels for each test.
- ◆ Performance levels for each test are: Exemplary, Met, and Not Met.
- ◆ Students receive information for each standard on each test.

### Parent Tips

Remember that tests are not perfect measures of what your child can do and that they are only one part of your child's education.

#### Before the test:

- Encourage your child to read as much as possible.
- Assist your child with homework.
- Ensure your child completes all homework assignments.
- Help your child have a positive attitude towards education.
- Communicate with your child's teacher.
- Be supportive of your child's efforts on the tests.
- Encourage rest and exercise as these are important activities to boost your child's focus and energy.

#### On test day, make sure your child:

- gets a good night's sleep before the test;
- eats a healthy breakfast;
- gets to school on time;
- takes any supplies or tools needed for the test; and
- does not have doctor or dental appointments during the testing period.



## Sample Items

### Science—Grade 7

A patient had trouble breathing during exercise. His doctor examined him and wrote these statements in his chart.

- The patient complains of difficulty breathing during exercise.
- During the office visit, the patient was wheezing.
- The patient most likely has asthma.
- The condition will be treated with an inhaling medication.

Which statement is an inference, but not a prediction?

- A. The patient complains of difficulty breathing during exercise.
- B. During the office visit, the patient was wheezing.
- C. The patient most likely has asthma.
- D. The condition will be treated with an inhaling medication.

Key = C



### Social Studies—Grade 5

Use these facts about basketball to answer the question.

- In 1891, Dr. James Naismith invented the game of basketball while teaching school in Massachusetts.
- In 2008, teams from 74 countries competed in basketball for the Summer Olympics.

Which term **best** explains these facts?

- A. cultural exchange
- B. political cooperation
- C. economic independence
- D. educational achievement

Key = A

