

ALL SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Expanded Testing Windows for the Spring 2008 FCAT Administration for VI Students and Students in the HHIP Only

**Category:**

**Audience:** All Principals/APs

**Due Date:** n/a

**Meeting Date:** n/a

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To advise all principals of the special expanded testing windows for the 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) administration for Visually Impaired (VI) students and Hospital/Homebound Program (HHIP) students only.

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- To provide the most appropriate testing conditions and to allow sufficient time for necessary accommodations for VI students and students in the HHIP, the district requested permission to adjust the Spring 2008 FCAT testing schedule for these students only. After review of the district's request, the Florida Department of Education has approved the implementation of the special extended testing windows, as follow:
    - The FCAT Writing+ extended testing window for VI and HHIP students only is February 5 - February 15, 2008.
    - The FCAT SSS and NRT extended testing window for VI and HHIP students only is March 4 - March 25, 2008.
  - Principals and test chairpersons of schools and centers with VI programs, or with VI students who receive services via itinerant vision teachers, should be sensitive to the fact that these students may be testing earlier than other students, and may be taking test sessions on different days than other students in the school. Consideration must be given both to providing the appropriate test settings for the VI students, free of distractions and disruptions, and to maintaining heightened test security to ensure that test content is not exposed, so as to maintain the integrity of the test administration for all other students.
  - Please note that the testing window for all students other than those in these two special programs (VI or HHIP) remains as originally scheduled (see schedule included in **Weekly Briefing #3435**, also posted at <http://oada.dadeschools.net/TestChairInfo/InfoForTestChair.asp>).

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