

# Changes To State Testing Requirements

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

**April 9, 2021 - Florida Dept. of Education:** Currently enrolled students who plan to graduate in the spring of 2021 are expected to pass the assessments to earn a standard high school diploma. However, a school district is allowed to **waive the required state assessments for graduation**, if the district determines that the student's high school record establishes a comparable level of achievement.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY SENIOR?

For **2021 graduating seniors only**, the Hernando School District waives the requirement to take FSA and End-of-Course state assessments for graduation.

In order to graduate, seniors will need:

1. the appropriate number of credits
2. a GPA of 2.0 or higher to receive a high school diploma.

### HOW WILL THIS IMPACT BRIGHT FUTURES?

- **Deadline Extended:** Students needing to take SAT/ACT to qualify for Bright Futures have until December 1, 2021.
- **Volunteer Service Hours:** Students who were unable to earn enough hours due to the pandemic or health-related barriers, should see their Guidance Counselors. Guidance Counselors may submit documentation on behalf of the student.

### WILL THIS CHANGE DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS?

Merit and Scholar Diploma Designations remain in place but will not require state test assessments results to qualify. The student's GPA will be used to determine the designation.

