

CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam)

- The California State Board of Education (SBE) requires that high school students graduating in the 2006 school year and beyond must pass this exam in order to receive a high school diploma.
- All public schools are required to test 95% of 10th grade students in their 10th grade enrollment year with this state-mandated assessment. Therefore, student participation at the exam sessions in their 10th grade year is crucial to the existence of the school and is required.
- The exam is given over two days. The first day is for English Language Arts, the second day is for Math.
- The tests are untimed. The average time is two hours per session and there are two sessions per day with a break in between. The test schedule is set up using average times.
- Grade 10 students may only attempt the same section of the CAHSEE test one time per year and it must be in the spring. Grade 11 students may attempt two times per year. Grade 12 may attempt three times per year.
- When the student begins an exam, they must complete both sessions on that same day. For example, if they sign up to take the Math exam, they must take the first two-hour session and also take the second two-hour session the same day in order to receive a score.
- Students are supposed to attempt the CAHSEE in 10th grade for the first time, since that is when the 95% participation for students is counted. If they don't pass, there is no consequence for having to redo it in 11th grade, except retaking it. It is better to take it, not pass, count as a positive for the 95% requirement, and know what is needed to study in order to pass the next time.
- Resources for study are available on the CDE under online resources that are found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp>.