

Calculator Guidance for High School Mathematics Tests

RECOMMENDED CALCULATORS

Calculators are important instructional tools that are allowable – but not required – for students to use while taking state tests. For students taking the computer-based tests, the test’s technology platform will provide a calculator for students to use on the tests. The exact calculator for each online assessment is available for use during instruction in the [Student Practice Resources: Mathematics](#) on the Ohio’s State Test Portal. Students may use handheld calculators for either the computer-based or paper-based test formats. Schools may permit students to bring their own handheld devices for test purposes.

For students who wish to use calculators for the high school tests, the Ohio Department of Education recommends graphing calculators – although students may use calculators with lower functionality. Schools should give students opportunities to become familiar with the calculators they choose before the tests.

Examples of **recommended** graphing calculators include, but are **not** limited to:

| Casio | Texas Instruments | |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| fx-9750GII | TI-73 Explorer | TI-NSpire |
| fx-9860GII | TI-83 Plus | TI-NSpire CX |
| fx-CG10 PRIZM | TI-84 Plus - Series | |

**Graphing calculators absent from this list are not automatically prohibited.*

PROHIBITED GRAPHING CALCULATOR FUNCTIONS AND FEATURES

Schools must **not** allow graphing calculators that meet these descriptions:

- Calculators with Computer Algebra System (CAS) features;
- Tablet, laptop, personal digital assistants (PDAs) or phone-based calculators;
- Calculators with “QWERTY” keyboards.

EXAMPLES OF ALLOWABLE SCIENTIFIC CALCULATORS

Examples of **allowable** scientific calculators include, but are **not** limited to:

| Casio | Sharp | Texas Instruments |
|--------------|---------|--------------------------|
| fc-200V | EL-500W | TI-15 Explorer |
| fx-55PLUS | EL-501X | TI-30Xa |
| fx-115ESPLUS | EL-506X | TI-30XIIS (OGT Approved) |
| fx-260Solar | EL-516X | TI-30XS Multi View |
| fx-300MS | EL-520X | TI-34 Series |
| fx-300ESPLUS | EL-531X | TI-36X Pro |
| | EL-535X | TI-BAll Plus |

**Scientific calculators absent from this list are not automatically prohibited.*

TEST ADMINISTRATOR GUIDANCE

- Confirm that the calculators meet the requirements for the test;
- Confirm that the memory on all handheld calculators is clear before and after each testing session;
- Do not allow students to share calculators with other students within a testing session.

| Math Tests | Testing Time for Section 1 | Testing Time for Section 2 | Maximum Total Testing Time |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| High School | 90 minutes Calculator | 90 minutes Calculator | 180 minutes |

CALCULATOR ACCOMMODATIONS

If students need specialized calculators (e.g. ones with large keys or that “talk”), they may use their own, provided this is specified in their individualized education programs or Section 504 Plans.

If you have additional questions regarding calculators, please contact:

General Calculator Questions:

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Testing Accommodations Questions:

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