

Appendix C: Calculator Policies

Calculators are allowable — but not required — for students to use while taking state tests.

For students taking tests online, a calculator is available for tests or parts of tests that allow calculator use within the online Student Testing Site. Online testing students may alternately use a handheld calculator at district or school discretion. Students may use handheld calculators for either the computer-based or paper-based test formats.

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Ohio State Tests will use Desmos as the online calculator. The Desmos calculators available [here](#) and in the [practice test site](#) have been modified for testing. The modified versions of the Desmos calculators are available to use for practice at any time and are the same versions students will have available during online testing. The guidance documents ([Guidance for Desmos Calculators for Grades 3-8](#), [Guidance for Desmos Calculators for High School](#)) provide information about the modifications for testing, accessibility and additional resources.

The district may provide a handheld calculator or schools may permit students to bring their own handheld devices for test purposes. If students are using handheld calculators, test administrators must confirm that the memory on all calculators has been cleared before and after each testing session. Note: Clearing the memory may reset mode to radians, you may need to show your students how to change the mode to degrees if needed.

If students qualify (according to their individualized education programs or Section 504 plans) to use calculators as an accommodation for non-calculator sections of a state test, the school must allow use of the calculator. If students in grades 3-5 will use the online calculator within the Student Testing Site, the test administrator must turn on this accommodation when approving the student to test for part 1 and part 2. If students in grades 6 and 7 will use the online calculator within the Student Testing Site, the test administrator must turn on this accommodation when approving the student to test for part 1. An online calculator for non-calculator tests or parts of tests cannot be turned on ahead of testing in TIDE.

Specific specialized external calculators (e.g., large key, talking) are allowed for students who need them for accessibility, provided that accommodation is specified in the student's approved Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan.

Refer to [Ohio's Accessibility Manual](#) for information about students with disabilities and the use of calculation devices or fact charts. For students who qualify for and will use a calculator on the grades 3-5 mathematics tests, they may use the same calculator that is allowable for students in grades 6-7.

See the pages that follow for specific information on allowable calculators by test. For additional guidance, refer to the contacts on the inside front cover of this manual.

Calculators for Grades 3-8 Mathematics

Grades 6 and 7 tests have non-calculator (part 1) and calculator (part 2) sections on the tests. For grade 8 mathematics, students may use calculators on both parts of the test. Only students with disabilities who meet the criteria in [Ohio's Accessibility Manual with Appendices](#) for the calculation device accommodation may use a calculator on a grade 3-5 mathematics test or part 1 of a grade 6 or 7 mathematics test. Students who use a calculator as an accommodation should follow the same calculator policy as the calculators allowed on 6-8 mathematics tests.

The Ohio Department of Education recommends scientific calculators for the grades 6-8 tests, but students may use calculators with lower functionality. Schools should give students the opportunity to become familiar with the calculators they choose before testing.

Recommended Calculators

Examples of recommended 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
fx-300MS	EL-520X	TI-34 Multi View
fx-300ESPLUS	EL-531X	TI-36X Pro
	EL-535X	TI-BAll Plus

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

Prohibited Scientific Calculators Functions and Features

Schools must not allow scientific calculators meeting these descriptions:

- Tablet, laptop, personal digital assistant (PDA) or phone-based calculators;
- Calculators with graphing functionality;
- Calculators with tape or paper outputs;
- Calculators with "QWERTY" keyboards.

Examples of Allowable Four-Function Calculators

Examples of allowable four-function calculators** include, but are not limited to:

Casio	Sharp	Texas Instruments
SL-300SV	EL-S10B	TI-503SV
SL-450STP	EL-377MB	TI-1706SV
SL-450S	EL-R277B	TI-108
HS-4G	EL-243SB	TI-1795SV
MS-80S	EL-240SB	
	EL-233SB	

**Four-function 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. Note: Clearing the memory may reset mode to radians, you may need to show your students how to change the mode to degrees if needed.
- Do not allow students to share calculators within a testing session.

Calculators for High School Mathematics

The Ohio Department of Education recommends graphing calculators for the high school mathematics tests, but students may use calculators with lower functionality. Schools should give students opportunities to become familiar with the calculators they choose before testing. A copy of Ohio's high school math calculator guidance can be found on the [portal](#).

Recommended Calculators

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. Note: Clearing the memory may reset mode to radians, you may need to show your students how to change the mode to degrees if needed.
- Do not allow students to share calculators within a testing session.

Calculators for Physical Science

The Ohio Department of Education recommends scientific calculators for the physical science test. Students may use graphing calculators, but these are not required or recommended. Schools should give students opportunities to become familiar with the calculators before the tests. A copy of Ohio's physical science calculator guidance can be found on the [portal](#).

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

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

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

Casio	HP	Texas Instruments	
fx-9750GII	HP 50g	TI-73 Explorer	TI-NSpire
fx-9860GII	HP Prime	TI-83 Plus	TI-NSpire CX
fx-CG10 PRIZM		TI-84 Plus - Series	

* Scientific and graphing calculators absent from these lists are not automatically prohibited.