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General

Legislation

Q: Who do districts contact at the legislative level?

A: Districts may find contact information for their local house representatives and senators at https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/.

WebXam Exams

Q: What is the number used for the minimum proficiency score on WebXam? Or where can districts see if a student has met proficient on 3 of the exams?

A: Information on minimum proficiency scores and other WebXam information can be found at https://news.webxam.org/.

Resource Book/Rules Book

Q: Is the Rules Book different than the Ohio State Resource Book?

A: The Ohio's State Tests Resource Book has replaced the "Rules Book."

COVID Flexibility

Q: What does that COVID testing flexibility look like for this year? What is the official guidance on flexibility allowance? When will districts have the official guidance on test window flexibility allowance?

A: Back to School COVID information is posted at: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Back-to-School.

Q: If a student goes into quarantine and misses testing, how should it be coded?

A: Please check with your EMIS coordinator for the code when a student is not able to participate in testing.

Q: If a student is quarantined, can they come into the district office, masked, etc. to take the test if the district wants to implement this type of practice?

A: This is ultimately a question for your local health department, but provided that all applicable local health guidelines were followed, if a district would like to make alternative arrangements to test a student within that window, that is permissible. Assessments should only be given if they can be administered safely.

MAP

Q: Can a school give the MAP test in a nonpublic school in place of state testing and receive Ed Choice/Jon Peterson funding?

A: Yes, the MAP Growth assessments are an approved alternative assessment for grades 3-8 in ELA, Math and Science. Students can renew their scholarships with the state approved alternative assessments. The complete list of approved alternative assessments for chartered non-public schools is available at https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/List-of-Approved-Assessments.

Training

Q: How do we find the map to locate someone that is trained in state tests data?

A: Trainers can be located here: http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Regional-Data-Leads.

Q: I am interested in becoming a Regional Data Lead. Where do I find information on this?

A: Start with the map and contact an RDL in your ESC/SST region. They would be able to provide you with the basic expectations of joining the network as an RDL. http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Regional-Data-Leads.

General Areas

Q: What's the reasoning behind changing "accelerated" to "accomplished"?

A: The word "accelerated" is also used in accelerated instruction and accelerated testing. It could be confused with the accelerated performance level. This change was made by the legislature.

Q: Do we have to include 1 year foreign exchange students in our program rates (exit rates, graduation rates)?

A: Generally, foreign exchange students are enrolled for a year and then withdraw which takes them out of the rates.

Q: How is the 2% testing limit calculated? Is that 2% on actual testing?

A: Districts have flexibility in how the 2% testing time is calculated. The 2% applies to the OSTs and district wide tests. See specific guide on the department website here: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Testing/Sections/Resources/2perTesting.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Can teachers provide students with grid paper for the scratch paper? Can it be labeled with the x and y axis?

A: Yes and no. Yes, grid paper can be used as long as there is no writing on the paper. No, only the grid can be used. No x and y axis can be shown. All scratch paper with writing must be collected after testing is complete and shredded. See Section 7.11 of the Spring 2022 Test Administration Manual. https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/-/media/project/client-portals/ohio-ost/pdf/sp22-tam/ost-sp22-tam-final-122021.pdf.

High School & OGT

Q: Even with changes to student graduation requirements, end of course exams in Biology, American History and American Government must still be administered, correct?

A: Yes. *ALL* end-of-course tests must be administered to ALL students in accordance with federal and state law. See **page 4** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: When the Department says "pass" for a test, does it mean proficient or meet the competency score being met?

A: Pass means earning Competent scores (684) for both the Algebra I and ELA II end-of-course tests; Proficient scores (700) for Biology, Geometry, American History and American Government. See **pages 9 and 12** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Do students who transfer from out of state still have to get five points on the ELA II and Geometry tests?

A: Out-of-state transfer students in the **classes of 2022 and earlier** have to earn at least five points across the Geometry and ELA II end-of-course (EOC) tests; transfer students in the **classes of 2023 and beyond** must earn competent scores (684) on both the Algebra I and ELA II EOC tests. See out-of-state transfer language in the Graduation Questions and Answers for the **classes of 2022 and prior:** https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Graduation-FAQs.

Transfer language for the classes of 2023 and beyond is not yet posted.

Q: Can we use B and higher course grade substitutions for Algebra I and ELA II?

A: No. Students need to take the end-of-course tests in both subjects and earn competent scores (684) to meet their assessment requirements for graduation. However, final course grade substitutions may apply for some students. See Student Eligibility topics in the Graduation Flexibility Course Grade Substitution guidance for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years.

- **2019-2020 school year**: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Graduation- Flexibility-%E2%80%93-2019-2020

- **2020-2021 school year**: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Graduation-Flexibility- 2020-2021

Q: What will happen with the American History test that was not required to be given in spring 2021?

A: Although the American History end-of-course (EOC) test was suspended only for spring 2021 and remains part of the total number of high school EOC tests that students are required to take, students in the **class of 2022** can take or retake the test in the fall 2021 test window or any test window if points are needed to graduate. Students in the **classes of 2023 and beyond** can test or retest if they are earning proficient scores (700) to earn one half of the Citizenship Seal. See **page 12** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond:
https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: A student transferred from out of state already took a Biology test in the former state. Does the student need to take the Biology test again in the state of Ohio? What about other subjects such as American Government or American History?

A: Not necessarily. Out-of-state transfer students in the **classes of 2022 and earlier** have to earn at least five points across the ELA II and Geometry end-of-course (EOC) tests; all other tests are prorated if students have already taken courses with associated EOC tests. See Transfer Language in Graduation Questions and Answers for the classes of 2022 and prior: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Graduation-FAQs.

Out-of-state transfer students in the **classes of 2023 and beyond** must earn competent scores (684) in both the Algebra I and ELA II EOC tests. These students do not have to test in other courses already taken unless they want to use proficient (700) scores on EOC tests to earn seals. See **pages 12-13** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond:
https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Are students required to retake the Algebra I and ELA II EOC tests if they meet competency scores on the first attempt?

A: Students are not required to retake the Algebra I and ELA II end-of-course tests if they meet the competency scores (684) on both tests.

Q: Can students attain the science seal with a B or higher in a biology course?

A: Students earning final course grades of 'B' or higher in an entry-level Biology course cannot be awarded the Science Seal. Students have to earn final course grades of 'B' or higher in an **advanced** science course to earn a Science Seal. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: What tests to do homeschool students have to take when moving in as a 12th grader for the class of 2023 and beyond?

A: Class of 2023 senior transfer students must take the Algebra I and ELA II end-of-course (EOC) tests and earn competent scores (684) on both tests. In addition, these students must take end-of-course (EOC) tests in any courses they are taking with associated EOC tests. Transfer language for the **classes of 2023 and beyond** is not yet posted.

Q: Can the testing windows for the spring 2022 tests be moved to later dates? March and April are so early. It was really nice to test in late April and May in 2021.

A: Currently, there are no plans to move the test windows. Districts can schedule their testing windows in late April and early May for most of the tests as long as the selected dates are within the state's testing windows.

Q: Does the Geometry EOC have an impact on the Class of 2023 graduation (competency or readiness)?

A: Although the Geometry EOC test has no impact on *graduation*, students are required to test because of a federal requirement. Testing and scores **do** have an accountability impact for schools and districts.

Q: Will EOC points still be awarded and collected?

A: *Points* are not collected for graduation purposes for the classes of 2023 and beyond. However, all **scores** are collected and reported.

Q: If a student used a grade substitution instead of testing and earned a 2, which is less than 700, is it appropriate to say that the student is unable to earn a competency score and has no ability to convert that to a number?

A: Correct, this student needs to test or retest to earn competent scores. For final course grade substitutions that meet competency, students need to earn a 'C' or better in applicable courses. Eligible students and conversion charts for final course grade substitutions are found here:

- **2019-2020 school year** https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Graduation- Flexibility-%E2%80%93-2019-2020

- **2020-2021 school year:** https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Graduation-Flexibility- 2020-2021

Q: Are the Career Focused Competency Alternatives all required or just one of the three?

A: Within the Career Experience and Technical Skill Competency Alternative, there are two options. Students must satisfy two demonstrations - one of which must be one foundational option. See **page 11** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Can a B or higher in a high school computer class equal a technology seal???

A: Not necessarily. Students must **complete** a course that meets Ohio Department of Education guidelines. **See page 21** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US. Additional seals language begins on page 12 with lengthier guidance for each seal beginning on page 15.

Q: Do students who attended a private school in Ohio (and received Algebra I credit in the 8th grade) then transferred to a public high school still need to take the Algebra I exam?

A: Yes. Students in the classes of 2023 and beyond that take an Algebra I course in middle school need to take the Algebra I end-of-course test and earn a competent score (684) to meet their assessment requirement for graduation.

Q: Must transfer students take the English language arts II or Algebra I EOC if they scored remediation free on the ACT?

A: Yes. All students, including out-of-state transfer students, in the classes of 2023 and beyond must earn competent scores (684) in both the Algebra I and ELA II EOC tests. Remediation-free scores can be used as *alternative* demonstrations of competency *after* a student who is following the long-term graduation requirements for the classes of 2023 and beyond has failed to meet the competent scores in the Algebra I and ELA II EOC tests twice (once for senior out-of-state transfer students). See **page 174** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Can alternative tests for private schools like Iowa be used for competency?

A: Yes. Competency scores are identified in the chart of Alternative High School Test Performance Levels. https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-Education-Options/Private-Schools/Chartered-Nonpublic-School-Information/Determining-Graduation-Points-for-Terra-Nova-and-Iowa-Assessments-1-002.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Seals

Q: The Science Seal only requires a B or higher in ONE advanced science course. Correct?

A: Correct. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Why wasn't Biology included as one of the courses students could use to substitute for Science Seal?

A: This decision was made by the state legislature to add an additional pathway to earn the Science Seal by allowing students to use a final course grade of 'B' or higher in an **advanced** science course. Of course, students can still earn the Science Seal with the original pathways. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly) for the final course grade pathway: https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

See **pages 12-13** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond for the original pathways: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: When do the changes to seals take effect?

A: House Bill 110 (134th General Assembly) went into effect on Sept. 30, 2021, and applies to all students following the graduation requirements for the classes of 2023 and beyond. Students in the class of 2022 following the graduation requirements of the class of 2023 may also use this option.

Q: How is seal verification shared between districts?

A: Courses, grades, test scores, seals and other student information should be documented in student records.

Q: Did you mention course grades can be used for seals for students with disabilities?

A: Yes. **See page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: What are the citizenship courses that could count for the Citizenship Seal?

A: Students can earn the Citizenship Seal by earning final course grades of 'B' or higher in **both** the American History and American Government courses. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Can districts go back retroactively and award seals for As and Bs earned in American History and American Government?

A: Yes, seals may be awarded retroactively.

Q: If a student gets a B or higher in American History and American Government they get the Citizenship Seal. This does not have to be a CCP class, but a regular high school class?

A: Yes, students can now use the final course grades in regular high school American History and American Government courses. A 'B' of higher is required in **both** the American History and the American Government courses. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Where can the seals to be added to the diplomas be found?

A: Seals are found on the Graduation Requirements webpage: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements.

Q: Is there consideration being given for students who took high school courses that connect to graduation seals as freshman or sophomores last year but didn't have the options for tests to be replaced by course grade?

A: The House Bill 110 additional pathways to earning seals applies to all students in the classes of 2023 and beyond. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: What if students aren't able to take an advanced science class?

A: If students are unable to take an **advanced** science course to earn a 'B' or higher to earn the Science Seal, these students can utilize the original pathways to earn the Science Seal or choose a different seal. See **pages 12-13** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: The B' for a seal could be used for this year's seniors using the new graduation pathway, correct? Is that clarification in writing somewhere?

A: Correct, according to House Bill 110, in order to earn a Science Seal using course grades, students must earn a 'B' or higher in an **advanced** science course. To earn a Citizenship Seal, students must earn a grade of 'B' or higher in **both** the American History and American Government courses. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Can you use a combination of grades and tests for Citizenship Seals?

A: This is still being determined by the Office of Graduation Requirements.

Q: If students had a grade replacement score of C or higher in Biology in the 2019-2020 school year, do they get the science seal?

A: A grade replacement score of 'C' or higher in Biology can ONLY be used for **eligible students** in the 2019-2020 school year to earn a Science Seal. See Eligible Student language in the 2019-2020 Graduation Flexibility Course Grade Substitution: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Graduation-Flexibility-%E2%80%93-2019-2020.

Q: Can students still earn the seals if they take the course through our school's online credit recovery system?

A: Yes. Applicable guidance language is not yet posted.

Q: So if Biology does not equal a seal, they just take it once like Geometry?

A: Correct *unless* the student wants to earn the Science Seal using the end-of-course test pathway, then the student can retest to try and earn a proficient score (700).

Q: Is it true that a course grade of 'B' or higher in an advanced science or a score of proficient or higher on the Biology EOC tests earns the Science Seal?

A: Correct. In order to earn a Science Seal using final course grades, students must earn a 'B' or higher in an **advanced** science course. See p**age 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

To earn a Science Seal using end-of-course tests, students must score proficient (700) on the Biology EOC test. See **page 13** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: How does it work for chartered non-public schools and the graduation seals?

A: Students attending Ohio chartered nonpublic schools follow the same graduation requirements as Ohio public school students.

Q: Do students get the Science Seal if they earned 3 points or higher with grade replacement scores from 2019-20?

A: Yes. **Eligible students** can receive final course grade substitutions for courses taken in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. A 'C' or better in Biology earns the Science Seal. See **Eligible Students** and **A-F Grading Scale** in the **2019-2020** Graduation Flexibility Course Grade Substitution: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Graduation-Flexibility-%E2%80%93-2019-2020.

See **Eligible Students** and **A-F Grading Scale** in the **2020-2021** Graduation Flexibility Course Grade Substitution: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Graduation-Flexibility-2020-2021.

Q: When was guidance given on Grade Substitutions for 2020 that a 'C' or higher earned a science seal? Now it is a 'B'. Do districts have to take away that seal if students already earned the seal from the 2020 guidance?

A: These are two different provisions in two separate bills. House Bill 164 (133rd General Assembly) granted final course grade substitution for all eligible students in the 2019-2020 school year. House Bill 110 (134th General Assembly) added additional options for students to earn the Citizenship and Science Seals. Seals awarded using the final course grade flexibility in HB 164 are still valid.

Q: Would a 9th/10th grade JROTC academy program count towards the Military Seal?

A: Military Seal requirements are found on **pages 15-19** of the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: For a specified science course to earn a Science Seal, are there guidelines for what courses count?

A: Yes. See **pages 43-45** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Can a science course taken through a career-tech instructor count toward a Science Seal at the student's high school?

A: Yes, if the course is an advanced science course. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly) for a short list of advanced science courses: https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Does it still hold true that students must pass a world language assessment within 15 months of graduation to earn the Ohio Seal of Biliteracy?

A: For Seal of Biliteracy requirements, see **pages 36-40** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Where can we find the courses that meet the requirements for the technology seal?

A: For Technology Seal requirements, see **pages 20-24** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Will the grade equivalent score continue in future years?

A: Final course grade substitutions are determined by the state legislature. Currently, there is no indication that final course grade substitutions will be granted for the 2021-2022 school year. However, the ability to use final course grades of 'B' of higher to earn seals is continuing law under House Bill 110. See **page 175** of the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: How many years/credits do the students need to earn the Military Seal through JROTC?

A: Two years. See **pages 15-19** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond. https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Will a Physical Science course count to earn a Science Seal?

A: An entry/beginning level Physical Science course can **not** be used to earn the Science Seal. For specific course information, see **pages 43-45** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: Has the information been posted on ODE for the updates to seals from the last budget?

A: Not yet. But you can view the guidance on **page 175** in the House Bill 110 Analysis (134th General Assembly): https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: Where can we get this presentation for the graduation seals to update with our academic requirements to help get information out to people?

A: Links to Conference presentations are available on the Testing webpage. See Latest News topic. https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing.

Q: What specific science courses are considered advanced?

A: For a list of advanced science courses, see **pages 12-13** in the Long-Term Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2023 and Beyond: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements_Long-term-Requirements-2023-and-Beyond.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

You may also contact Cathy Holmes, Science Consultant, at cathy.holmes@education.ohio.gov.

Grade 3-8 and Diagnostics

Q: Are there any changes for testing for 2021-2022 in grades 5-8?

A: All grade 5-8 testing remains the same for school year 2021-2022.

Q: Will districts get spring results earlier this year?

A: Spring results release dates are available here under "Spring 2022 Test Results": https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Test-Dates/2021-2022-Testing-Dates. Test results were released later than normal in 2020-2021 due to legislative extension of the spring test windows.

Q: For spring testing, do districts have two separate 15 day windows to administer the ELA tests and the Math/Science/Social Studies tests? In other words, a 15 day window for just ELA and a different 15 window for Math/Science/Social Studies? I thought it was just one 15 day window for all tests.

A: Districts have two separate 15 day windows they may use. One 15 day window for ELA, and a separate 15 day window for math/science/social studies. These dates may overlap or not.

Q: What counts as the start of the test? Can a student start writing on scratch paper once the teacher has the room quiet and begins to read instructions?

A: Best practice would be that students begin writing on scratch paper only once they have actually clicked "Begin Test". This avoids any misperceptions should another teacher or administrator enter and see students writing on their paper while the teacher is still reading instructions.

Q: Will OSTs be offered in languages other than English in the future to avoid ordering interpreters and any issues that come with that?

A: The OSTs in math, science, and social studies are also offered in Spanish. Students may also receive an oral translation if they speak a language other than English or Spanish. Other languages may be available in future years, but not at present.

Q: How are OSTs in Spanish accessed? Are they pre-ordered or is there automatically an option to have the OST translated using preferences?

A: In the test settings, there is an option to change the language to Bilingual English/Spanish. This is only available online, and is only available for math, science, and social studies. Translations are never permitted on ELA tests. Further information can be found in the Test Administrator User Guide: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/test-administrator-user-guide.

Q: What does the OST training to staff need to consist of? My district uses PublicSchoolWorks. Is there a 'course' that can be completed within that program that would meet this requirement?

A: There is an optional TA Certification Course available on the portal: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/ta-certification-course.

Q: If the summer grade 3 ELA test window is moved earlier, can the window be extended into July for districts that wish to test in July?

A: The summer test administration window was pushed earlier due to district feedback and the ability to get results back for these tests sooner.

Q: What is the reason for the English and Math/Science/SS test results to be separated? There's a week gap between the results release.

A: In a "normal year", we typically release all online results (ELA, math, science and SS) on the same date (usually early June). Grade 3 ELA has a different deadline required by state law. School year 2020-2021 was different because of the extension of the testing windows. Anticipated release dates for spring 2022 results are available here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Test-Dates/2021-2022-Testing-Dates.

Q: What is the Department's advice when the district's spring break falls right in the middle of the spring ELA testing window and there are not 10 consecutive days on either side of the break?

A: Spring breaks do NOT count towards a district's 15 consecutive school days. Districts may, for example, test for 8 days before spring break and then 7 days after spring break for a total of 15 consecutive school days.

Q: Is there a cap on the version of ChromeOS that needs to be placed for testing?

A: Technically a cap was never in effect, Cambium has always provided rolling support for Chrome versions. Technology resources can be found here: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/technology-resources/technology-resources. The minimum ChromeOS version for 2021-2022 is 91.

Q: Will there be extensions for students who are absent due to COVID quarantine? If districts have students impacted by quarantine who have missed the district's test window, can districts still test these students on upon their return?

A: Yes. As long as testing takes place within the state's test window.

Q: If a snow day falls in the window, can districts make up this day for testing?

A: Typically, the Department will allow districts to add a day to the end of their test windows for calamity day(s).

Q: How soon will 3rd grade spring results be available? With moving the summer window sooner, there is not much time to get the scores and remediate students prior to retesting.

A: State law requires grade 3 ELA test results to be returned to districts no later than June 15.

Q: Where do you find course numbers and teacher numbers for the pre-ID file?

A: Use of these fields is locally determined, and would be in reference to local numbers in use for those fields.

Q: Can students copy and paste in the global notes or item response from a reading passage?

A: This functionality is not possible in the student testing site.

Q: Do the practice tests give answers to questions? If so, do the students have to take the entire practice test to get the correct answer?

A: The practice tests do have answers to questions available in the context menu for each item. Further information can be found in the Practice Site Guidance Document here: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/student-practice-resources/practice-site-guidance-document.

Q: May a district choose paper for ELA and then math online under the third grade paper testing option? Can districts test paper in the fall and online in the spring?

A: For the Board Resolution, a district may choose grade 3 ELA or grade 3 math or both. Please be clear in the resolution which subject the request is for. The decision is for the whole school year.

Q: Can students take more than one grade level test in a year? For example, can 6th grade students on a Written Acceleration Plan and getting 6th and 7th grade instruction for math, take the 7th grade test and just skip the 6th grade math test? Or should these students take both?

A: Students will take the grade level test of the highest level of instruction received. In this situation they would take the 7th grade math test, not the 6th grade math test.

Q: Can you clarify the accelerated/accomplished performance level designation? Is there a change to the Advanced designation?

A: There is no change other than the name for accelerated to accomplished. No other changes to other performance levels or the PLDs.

Q: For students receiving an EdChoice Scholarship, if the school uses an alternative assessment in the spring are you still required to give the fall grade 3 ELA test or an alternative?

A: Technically, students in third grade need to be tested ONCE to retain their scholarship. However, in years when students need a promotion score, it would likely be helpful if they received more than one opportunity to achieve that promotion score.

Q: If a district is paper/pencil for third grade and has students out due to COVID, should the district hold onto the paper/pencil test in order to give the student the test when they return, assuming it will be before the state window closes?

A: Yes, this would be allowable. Please ensure that the paper test is securely stored.

Q: What is a perfect score on a test?

A: Districts should consult the performance level ranges for each test. ELA and math scaled score ranges are here: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/-/media/project/client-portals/ohio-ost/pdf/2016q1/oh_math_ela_performance_standards_121620.pdf.

Science and social studies scaled score ranges are here: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/-/media/project/client-portals/ohio-ost/pdf/2015q4/oh_sci_ss_performance_standards.pdf.

Q: If we are giving one of the approved alternative assessments we can disregard the state test window, correct? The Iowa window does not line up with the state test window.

A: Correct, the state windows are for the state tests. Please consult the vendor for potential test windows on vendor assessments.

Q: What if the board resolution submitted for third grade is not clear in what tests are to be administered on paper?

A: The Department or test vendor will typically follow-up to clarify.

Q: Is the 15 day window district-wide, or per building?

A: The 15 consecutive school day window applies to the district, all buildings should test within the district's 15 day window.

Q: When we had to provide EMIS information from last year about third grade students meeting the promotion score, we had a difficult time determining which choice to select because there were no choices that stated students were exempt last year from the third grade guarantee. What should we have selected as the exemption reason?

A: Please contact the EMIS help desk at EMIS@education.ohio.gov for assistance.

Q: What needs to be done by May 1 in regards to the third grade paper resolution process?

A: The local district board of education needs to pass a board resolution indicating which third grade tests will be on paper and submit this to the department. It is highly advised if you're interested to have this on your board's agenda no later than their typical April meeting.

Q: STAR has a specific third grade guarantee test. Do we give this one in Winter and Spring not STAR Reading so they have 2 chances during the year and not one?

A: It is a local determination when this test would be administered.

Q: Where is the Test Coordinator's Checklist?

A: The DTC checklist can be found in Appendix J of that administration's Test Administration Manual: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/administration-manuals-,-a-,-guidance-documents/tams-and-sifpts/tams-and-sifpts/spring-2022-tam/sp22-tam.

Q: Do paraprofessionals who are monitoring a test session with a test administrator need to sign a security form like the TA does? If so, then just having them sign a TA form would be okay? Is there a paraprofessional form?

A: This would be a local determination. It is recommended for paraprofessionals who are in the room with secure testing data to have one signed if the test administrators are also required to sign in the district. A test administrator form would be fine (or even if the district wanted to develop a local form). There is no specific paraprofessional form.

Q: When is the best time do to the PreID file upload? Can I do one now for fall ELA and another in spring?

A: Districts upload once now for all tests in the 2021-2022 school year, then update as needed.

Q: For district students who are educated elsewhere such as an educational service center teacher, should the district test them during their window, or does the service provider create their own window even though the student is enrolled with this district?

A: In general, the home district and servicing district should work together to determine who will be testing the student, and whoever is testing the student would test that student in their own window. For example, if you are the home district, but District X is serving your student and plans to test them, the student would be fine to test in District X's window.

Q: Are districts still required to give a district social studies assessment as a replacement for 4th and 6th grade social studies state test?

A: Yes. State law still requires that districts "teach and assess" students in grades 4 and 6 in social studies.

Q: Is a reading diagnostic sill required for grade 3?

A: Yes, a reading diagnostic is required in grades K-3.

Third Grade Reading Guarantee

Q: If the bill for TGRG retention waiver passes this year, will it be in effect for our current third graders (2021-2022)?

A: Yes. Senate Bill 226 waives the retention provision of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and is applicable to current third graders in the 2021-2022 school year. Additional information can be found here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee.

Q: Will the Third Grade Reading Guarantee retention waiver be applicable to current students in kindergarten, first and second grades?

A: A change such as this would have to be made by the state legislature and passed into law by the Governor. Senate Bill 226 only waives the retention provision for 2021-2022.

Q: How does the Third Grade Reading Guarantee affect K-3 Literacy component of the state report card?

A: Please contact the Office of Accountability at accountability@education.ohio.gov for a response to questions about how the Early Literacy measure of Ohio's School Report Card is calculated.

Q: Is the state looking at reversing the third grade reading guarantee?

A: Senate Bill 226 waives the retention provision of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee for the 2021-2022 school year only. Further information can be found here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee.

Q: Whom do we contact to address the TGRG for this year?

A: Email - ThirdGradeGuarantee@education.ohio.gov for questions about the Third Grade Reading Guarantee.

Q: Are TGRG approved assessments in the list you mentioned for alternative testing used by charter schools?

A: The list of approved assessments is here: http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/List-of-Approved-Assessments.
You will need to consult the chart to determine which assessments can be used for what purpose.

Q: How many opportunities does a student have to test for the purposes of meeting the Third Grade Reading Guarantee?

A: A student may have a total of 6 attempts to meet the promotion score. A student may take the state grade 3 ELA test twice during the school year and once during the summer, additionally a student may take an approved alternative assessment twice during the school year and once during the summer.

Q: For TGRG Is the summer administration required if students don't pass during the year?

A: It is not required, it is optional.

Q: Why do we need a promotion score if the retention consequence is paused?

A: The promotion score was set before the start of the school year. With the passage of Senate Bill 226 and the retention provision is waived, it will not be in effect for the school year 2021-2022. However, students who do not reach the promotion score will still need to receive remediation services. Further information can be found here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee.

Dyslexia

Q: When does the requirement to administer a dyslexia screener go into effect?

A: The first universal tier one screening of kindergarten students is scheduled for January 2023 through January 2024. For more detailed information on phase in for other grades and follow-up with students at risk, please visit https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Dyslexia.

Q: Where can I find more information about the dyslexia diagnostic?

A: There is information about the diagnostic assessment for dyslexia here: http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Dyslexia/Dyslexia-Intervention-and-Support-Frequently-Asked.

Q: Has ODE approved a list of tier one screeners for districts to meet the new screening requirements for districts?

A: The Department expects an approved list of screeners to be in place before the screening requirement takes effect in the 22-23 school year.

Q: Where can I find more information about the dyslexia screener requirement?

A: Please see the Ohio Dyslexia Support Law's Frequently Asked Questions page here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Dyslexia/Dyslexia-Intervention-and-Support-Frequently-Asked#FAQ4243.

For questions, please contact Dyslexia@education.ohio.gov.

Q: Does the dyslexia screening requirement extend to non-public schools?

A: No, it only applies to public schools.

Test Security

Q: Are districts to have testing security agreements distributed to all staff before October 1? Does staff training have to be completed by October 1?

A: According to OAC 3301-13-05, procedures and penalties shall be communicated in writing to all district employees who have access to secure test materials and students who are being tested by October 1 of each year.

Q: Does the requirement for a district's test security policy and training apply to chartered nonpublic schools?

A: Yes. All schools administering state tests are expected to follow the same test administration and test security policies and procedures.

Q: This question is related to testing accommodations. English learner students can have an interpreter for the math, social studies and science tests. However, one of the issues raised regarding interpreters and test security is sometimes interpreters do not know how to translate some academic words or terminology on the test and use a translation app on their cell phones to assist them. Districts have argued this issue. Can interpreters use devices for translation if needed as long as they are not using them to copy or take images of tests?

A: An electronic dictionary may be used but the translator may not use an app that has the ability to copy or take images of questions.

Q: Regarding the deadline of October 1st, does having written procedures and policies posted on the district's website for all staff satisfy the requirement?

A: The district security plan may be posted on your website but also must be presented to staff and students.

Q: Does the staff training have to be completed by October 1?

A: Training is to be determined by the district or school. The security plan must be completed by October 1.

Q: Is there an example of what a district test security plan for testing looks like?

A: There is no sample test security plan. The test administration manual covers areas of test security to be maintained. Test administration manuals for all state tests are located on the test portal under Resources. https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/

Q: Does the test security agreement apply to students also?

A: According to the Ohio Administrative Code, students and staff must be reminded of test security provisions before each test administration. It is at district discretion whether or not students should sign actual test security agreements.

ACT/SAT/WorkKeys

ACT/SAT

Q: What is a remediation free score on the ACT?

A: This information can be found ODE Website College and Career Readiness Test page: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/College-and-Career-Readiness-Test.

Q: For ACT remediation free for ELA II - is that remediation free on both ACT reading and ELA?

A: Yes.

- For English Language Arts: English subscore of 18 (or higher).
- Entered high school prior to July 1, 2014, reading subscore of 21 (or higher).
- Entered high school after July 1, 2014, reading subscore of 22 (or higher).

Cited from: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/College-and-Career-Readiness-Test.

WorkKeys

Q: Where can districts find the WorkKeys tests and how can they be ordered?

A: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Industry-Recognized-Credentials/Workforce-Readiness-Score/Reimbursement-for-WorkKeys-Tests

Q: What is currently required WorkKeys score for graduation?

A: The currently required score of 14, but that is currently under review.

Students with Disabilities and AASCD

Q: What if a student with an IEP doesn't pass the science test and can't take an advanced science course? How can they get the Science Seal?

A: Students with disabilities can earn seals with course grades, please see HB 110 Analysis, page 175: https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: When you say "pass" in regards to a test for the AASCD, do you mean proficient or meets the competency score being met?

A: There are competency scores established for the end-of-course tests in Algebra I and ELA II. The AASCD does not have a competency score, so for these tests use the proficient score of 500.

Q: How can students participating in the AASCD earn the seals?

A: Students who have a most significant cognitive disability and participate in the alternate assessment may use AASCD scores to earn seals, or for certain seals can earn seals with course grades.

Q: We gave the online AASCD last year, and we have a large group of deaf students. We did use dual monitors, but we administer in a larger group instead of individual administration. Is there an easier way to do dual monitors in a large group of students?

A: This is our recommendation for now, the test administrator (TA) needs to be able to administer and monitor students during testing.

Q: Can a student be on extended standards to earn a seal in the higher level classes?

A: Extended standards are developed for students taking the alternate assessment. It is unlikely that a student taking "higher level classes" would qualify for the alternate assessment. All students in the class of 2023 are required to earn seals to meet graduation requirements.

Q: If a student has a disability and cannot function with the online testing platform, can a paper test be requested instead? Or do we request scribe option to allow someone to scribe the test for the student?

A: The IEP team may determine the student needs to test with paper. This is an accommodation that must be documented in the IEP. Similarly, the scribe is also an accommodation that must be documented in the IEP. Protocols for testing accommodations are in Ohio's Accessibility Manual: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Accommodations-on-State-Assessments.

Q: Will the Ohio Accessibility Manual be updated and posted to the department website?

A: The updated version of the Accessibility Manual is available here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Accommodations-on-State-Assessments.

Q: Can students with disabilities taking the general OSTs be excused from meeting the competency scores for graduation?

A: Students with disabilities may be excused from being proficient or competent on the OSTs after testing-remediation-retest and still not able to meet competency. The new legislation that addresses this is ORC 3313.618.

Q: If a senior student has been on alternate assessment all through high school and now under the new AASCD decision-making tool doesn't qualify and needs to take the regular OST for areas that they were not proficient in during the AASCD, do they get credit for the subject areas they were proficient in and do they have to take the OST twice before we can exempt from the high stakes consequences?

A: If a high school student has completed all 4 content area AASCDs there is no requirement to continue testing. If the student has not completed all 4 high school tests, the student must participate in EOCs. There is no graduation pathway that combines EOCs and AASCDs. If the student is taking the EOCs and does not meet the competency score on initial test, is provided remediation and retest then the IEP team may excuse the student from meeting the competency. The student is still required to earn 2 seals.

Q: How do AASCD students get a seal if they can't communicate or if they can't pass a test?

A: Students taking the alternate assessment can earn seals with the scores on the assessment. If they can't pass the assessment, they can use course grades to earn seals. please see HB 110 Analysis, page 175: https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17322&format=pdf.

Q: For third grade students with disabilities taking the paper/pencil test, do accommodations need to be uploaded into TIDE the same way they were when they took the online version?

A: Accommodations do not need to be uploaded because the test settings would not be applicable to a paper test. However, you would still mark the checkbox in the pre-ID record that the student received accommodations.

Q: What alternatives to proving competency are available to students with disabilities?

A: ODE has numerous resources to support the transition of students with disabilities for workforce development. These assessments and resources may present a graduation pathway in an area of student interest. Please contact Amy Szymanski in the Office for Exceptional Children for more information. Amy.Szymanski@education.ohio.gov.

Q: Students with IEPs who stay past four years are not counted as dropouts and do not hurt a district's dropout rate. This will affect a district's four-year cohort graduation rate, for which such students cannot be counted in the numerator because they took longer than four years to graduate (effectively lowering the district's graduation rate). Is that the same if they don't meet the graduation requirements and we exempt them so they can graduate on time?

A: A student who is excused from the graduation requirements may receive a diploma but is not considered a high school graduate for graduation rate computation. Even though they graduate "on time," they only met modified (excusal) graduation requirements.

Q: If a student is on an IEP for autism spectrum disorder but does not qualify for the AASCD and does not pass the Algebra 1 and ELA II EOCs, can they graduate with at least a B in both History courses and another seal?

A: Correct. However, the student will still need to meet competency requirements, or, if the IEP determines to excuse the student from competency requirements, only after they test-remediate-retest and do not earn competency scores on the Algebra I and ELA II EOCs.

Q: What are pathway options for students with disabilities?

A: All graduation pathways are available to students with disabilities.

Q: Will there be AASCD training for new teachers? I saw the certification course, but does it replace the previous in-person training event for new teachers to learn how to use the system?

A: The online on-demand Alternate Assessment certification course is designed for new test administrators. It is available in the Alternate Assessment test portal and uses the educator's TIDE username and password to access here: https://ta-cert.cambiumast.com/courses/ta/ohioalt. It is also great information for experienced test administrators. The State Support Teams may provide regional training on paper test administration beginning in November.

Q: We do have one student who needs paper. When will the paper training be held?

A: The State Support Teams may provide regional training on paper test administration beginning in November.

Q: Will students that are alternately assessed only have to retake Math and ELA if necessary?

A: The class of 2023 graduation pathways requires students be proficient on the ELA and mathematics alternate assessments. If a student is not proficient on these tests, the district is required to receive remediation and then retest. If the student is still not proficient on ELA and/or math, the IEP team may excuse the student from being proficient to meet graduation requirements.

Q: For the AASCD, after taking the initial Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies tests, will students ONLY have to retake the Math and ELA for graduation if they did not hit a score of 500, or will they have to retake all tests?

A: Students are required to retest in areas in which they are not proficient. A reminder that there is not a competency score for the AASCD - districts would use the proficient score of 500.

OELPS, OELPA, and Alt-OELPA

Q: Is there a quick guide for rostering students for OELPS?

A: There is a quick guide for the Centralized Reporting System which includes general directions on rosters here: https://oh-oelpa.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/system-manuals/centralized-reporting-system-resources/crs-quick-guide. There is no specific quick guide on rosters for the OELPS.

Q: If the OELPS is taken online (in-school), do educators still have to score the spoken and written parts locally and does the OELPS have to be administered 1 to 1?

A: The OELPS, online and paper, is scored locally and is administered one-to-one, with one student and one test administrator.

Q: Is the OELPS-BK only for kindergarten students or can it be used for preschool students as well?

A: The OELPS-BK is only for kindergarten students. The OELPS-BK cannot be administered to preschool students.

Q: Is the English Learner identification and OELPS for foreign-exchange students, too?

A: Yes. As a newly enrolled student, the Language Usage Survey should be sent to the host family of the foreign-exchange student. If the Language Usage Survey indicates a screening for a foreign-exchange student, then the OELPS is administered. Not all foreign exchange students are potential English learners.

Q: I can't find the OELPS Step Two Speaking Scoring Document. Can you indicate where it is located?

A: The Screener Step Two Speaking Scoring Document is on the portal at this address: https://oh-oelpa.portal.cambiumast.com/resources#text=speaking%20scoring%20.

Q: Are ELL language plans optional or required for each district?

A: Individual English Learner Plans are a best practice. The Lau Resource Center for English Learners has sample plans it can share. Please check at lau@education.ohio.gov.

Q: Is group testing encouraged, or generally not recommended?

A: For the OELPA, it is the district's option. Please note one-to-one for the speaking test is recommended; however, if a group administration is chosen, please make sure that students do not hear each other to maintain test security. The OELPS is required to be a one-to-one administration.

Q: Is there a standardized monitoring form that ESL teachers can use?

A: There is no standard form available for use during the monitoring of former English learners.

Q: If a student gets all 4's and 5's but one 3 on the OELPA, does the student still have to take all 4 domain tests for the next OELPA administration?

A: Yes, per federal requirements, the student must be administered all four OELPA domain tests unless there is a domain exemption.

Q: Are English Learners with an overall proficiency level of Emerging on the OELPA required to take the OSTs for their assigned grade levels?

A: All English learners are required to have the OST administered per grade level in addition to being administered the OELPA, regardless of proficiency level on the OELPA.

Q: Is there an official document available to help ESL teachers notify staff about Pass/Fail eligibility for newcomer ELLs?

A: There is no official document used to notify Pass/Fail eligibility for newcomer students or potential English learners. Grading policies are largely determined at the local level.

Q: Can the speaking section of the OELPS be re-scored after it is submitted?

A: A reopen or reset may be requested in TIDE on the portal if an error was made during the administration of the OELPS.

Q: Is the 30 days or 30 days plus 15 days federal time period for the identification process applicable to the OELPS-BK?

A: If the student has enrolled after the initial 30 days has expired, then the 30 plus 15 days time period is in place for the rest of the school year.

Q: How many English learners does a district need in order to see the English Language Proficiency Improvement Measure on the state report card?

A: There needs to be at least 15 English learners with OELPA scores to make the calculation of English Language Proficiency progress on the state report card. The English Language Proficiency Improvement Measure: http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Report-Card-Resources/Gap-Closing-Component/English-Language-Proficiency-Improvement-Measure.

Q: If the OELPA is optional for private schools (such as a Catholic HS), is the screener optional as well?

A: Yes, both OELPS and OELPA are optional for chartered nonpublic schools. Both do not need to be administered. Nonpublic schools participating in Title III should discuss annually with public school district officials how English learners will be assessed for initial identification and for annual progress.

Q: Do schools have to report a reason when English learners do not take the OELPA?

A: In these cases, the district would choose the appropriate "score not reported" code from the EMIS manual. District should work with their local EMIS Coordinator and ITC for guidance on selecting the correct code.

Q: What do we do if a student cannot come into the school to take the OELPA, due to medical/mental issue?

A: The OELPA and the OELPS must be administered in person. There is no remote administration. If a student does not participate in the OELPA, the district needs to report the most appropriate "score not reported" code in EMIS.

Q: Do students who have taken the OELPS in a prior year ever have to take it again?

A: If the student was identified as an English learner and is receiving services, the OELPS is not re-administered and the test to be administered is the OELPA. If the student was not identified as an English learner, monitoring may indicate a need for screening.

Q: Will the OELPS-BK proficient score of all 3s be just this year or all years going forward?

A: It is anticipated that the OELPS-BK proficiency definition of 3s and higher will be in effect for future years.

Q: The Alt-OELPA is not in effect until schoolyear 22-23, correct?

A: Correct, the operational field test is in spring 2023.

Q: Do current alternate assessment students have to take the OELPA this year or can they be exempted?

A: There is no exemption from participating in the English language proficiency assessment for all identified English learners. In spring 2023 there will be an operational field test for English learners with a most significant cognitive disability to take the Alternate OELPA.

Q: If a cognitively disabled student is an EL, on the current OELPA the child was exempt from 3 out of 4 domains. On the new Alt-OELPA will they still be exempt or will they need to take all 4 domains?

A: The Department is developing the Alt-OELPA to provide more access for students who previously received domain exemptions. The pilot and field test data will help determine the policy of domain exemptions and the Alt-OELPA.

Q: If the district decides the non-participatory student is emerging, where does that information need to be entered?

A: The OELPS results should be added to the student's file. The English learner identification is coded in EMIS, in the Student Attributes-Effective Date Record FD170.

Q: What is the next step when a student has a proficiency status of "proficiency not demonstrated"?

A: The student has been identified as an English learner. The district determines the category - Emerging or Progressing - and determines which services to provide.

Restart Readiness Assessment

Q: If a district plans to give the ELA II Restart Readiness test to our ELA I students, do they need to change anything in TIDE / Pre-ID, or will the students have access regardless?

A: No. For RRA, test administrators (TA) have the ability to administer any test to any student, regardless of any settings or student attributes in TIDE. The only requirement is that the students are preidentified in TIDE.

Q: What exactly are the Restart Readiness Assessments? Are the Restart Readiness Assessments (RRA) an actual test or a practice test?

A: The Restart Readiness Assessments are an optional suite of assessments. Further information can be found here: https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Restart-Readiness-Assessments.

Q: Could the Restart Readiness Assessment count as an Ohio State Test (OST) in any year?

A: No. While the Restart Readiness Assessments are a useful tool to determine student progress and readiness, they are not a replacement for the state tests.

Q: Do you know if there will be a pre-ID extract given to vendors for the Restart Readiness Assessments? We have districts wanting to load them and prefer not to do it manually.

A: The Pre-ID process for the Restart Readiness Assessments is the same as for the OSTs.

Q: Will the RRA be available beyond 21-22 SY?

A: It has yet to be determined if the Restart Readiness Assessments will be available beyond the 2021-2022 school year.

Q: How is test security for the RRA handled with student SSIDs?

A: Test tickets can be printed for the RRAs in the same way as the OSTs. Or districts can choose some other way to communicate the SSIDs to the students.

Q: Is paginated stimuli off by default for the Restart Readiness Assessments?

A: Yes, paginated stimuli is default off in the Restart Readiness Assessments but can be turned on for students in the test settings.

Q: If I have already uploaded the pre-ID file for the Restart Readiness Assessments, are my third graders already uploaded for the Fall ELA assessment?

A: It depends on the specifics of the upload--if it included the students' ELA test eligibility, then likely yes, they are already pre-IDed.

Q: How are tests graded by a computer automatically for a writing section?

A: The writing on the state tests (and now the Restart Readiness Assessments) has been graded by computer since 2016. Further information on Ohio's machine scoring process can be found here: https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/Assessments-for-English-Language-Arts/OhiosMachineScoringProcess.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US.

Q: For the full length benchmark tests, can students pause and resume the next day? Can the benchmark tests be taken over the course of two periods or two days? Essentially, can they be paused and continued without the district coordinator reopening?

A: Yes, the RRA tests will stay open for 7 days and can be paused and resumed during that period without the need for DTC intervention. Please see the RRA Teacher Quick Guide for additional information: https://oh-reset.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/system-resources/restart-readiness-assessments---teacher-quick-guide.

Q: Is there a way to see the questions before administering the assessments? The reason many teachers did not use them last year was because they couldn't see the questions ahead of time in order to correlate them to instructional units.

A: Unfortunately, teachers are unable to see questions in advance of testing. However, item data, including the items themselves, are displayed in the Centralized Reporting System following testing.

Q: What grade or grades is this test for?

A: Restart Readiness Assessments are available for all state-tested grade levels and subjects - Grade 3 through high school.

Q: Do the results provide analysis based upon standards?

A: Yes. The Restart Readiness Assessments are aligned to Ohio's learning standards, just like Ohio's State Tests (OSTs). The Centralized Reporting System (CRS) provides an analysis of performance as it relates to the learning standards.

Q: Do you need to turn any assessment on in TIDE?

A: For the RRAs, no eligibility information needs to be included in the student record. Any test may be administered to any student, regardless of enrolled grade or any other student attribute.

Q: Can scores and data be exported from the system and imported into a district's in-house data warehouse system similar to OST scores?

A: Districts should check with their local data warehouse system for compatibility.

Q: What is the web address to access the RRA site?

A: The Restart Readiness Assessment portal can be found here: https://oh-reset.portal.cambiumast.com/.

Q: The students have to be placed on rosters which is a change from last year. Can students be on more than one roster?

A: Yes, students can be placed on more than one roster.

Q: Are accommodations such as text-to-speech available on the RRA?

A: Yes. The same accommodations available for the Ohio's State Tests can be found on the Restart Readiness Assessments.

Q: If a roster file is not loaded, what does a teacher see when they log into the CRS?

A: Teachers will not see any data. Only when students are rostered to the teacher will the teacher be able to see student data.

Q: Could the state create a "dummy student" account for districts to login and see these assessments ahead of administering them to students?

A: The state does not have the ability to create a "dummy" account for this purpose.

Q: Will a test administrator have access to the CRS to see their student results?

A: To access the student results for RRA in CRS, the user must have a TE role (the TA role does not have access). Please create a roster and associate the student to the teacher in order to review the results.

Q: Will the state test results show up this year like the RRAss in the CRS? For item analysis, etc.?

A: Yes, state test results will be available in CRS this year like the RRAs.

Q: For students with IEP accommodations and have extended time, is there a way to mark that in the system so they still get the scaled score for the RRA?

A: Students will get a scaled score regardless, districts can certainly mark in the pre-ID file that the student receives accommodations, but they will receive a scaled score whether or not it's marked.

Q: How does the student upload effect our upload for upcoming testing? Do the students remain in TIDE say for grade 3 fall testing?

A: If the pre-ID file for grade 3 fall testing has already been uploaded, then these students are eligible for the RRAs. An additional upload is not needed.

Q: Last year when we gave these as a district, we did not have to establish rosters prior to taking the Restart Readiness Assessments. Is there a work around to not create rosters for this?

A: A student does not have to be rostered to take any RRA test. A student that has been Pre-IDed may take any benchmark or checkpoint test.

Q: Where is the link to the RRA quick guide?

A: You can find it here: https://oh-reset.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/system-resources/restart-readiness-assessments---teacher-quick-guide.

Q: If we upload a student data file for RRAs, do we have to upload another file to overwrite to allow for specific tests (i.e. 3rd grade or HS EOCs)?

A: If you upload a pre-ID file WITHOUT student test eligibility marked, then yes, you would need to mark their test eligibility before testing. If you upload a pre-ID file WITH student test eligibility marked, then the student would be able to take both their state test and the RRAs.

Q: What is the difference between uploading students in TIDE and rostering them?

A: A roster is not needed to take an RRA. Ensure that all students taking a RRA test are preidentified in TIDE prior to beginning to test. No eligibility information needs to be included in student records. Any test may be administered to any student, regardless of enrolled grade or any other student attribute. Rostering is done so that teachers are able to see the results for their students in CRS.

Q: How can districts be sure that teachers a selecting the right RRA assessment in the TA interface, and not accidentally starting an actual state test?

A: Test administrators should be careful when selecting tests for a testing session as the RRAs and OSTs have similar test names. To avoid administering an actual OST when the intent is to administer the RRA, the OSTs have been grouped into an OST dropdown and the Restart Readiness Assessments in their own dropdown.

Q: The raw file that can be downloaded from the CRS, does it include domain, strand and standard?

A: Yes, it includes the domain, strand, and standard.

Q: I am looking at OST results from previous years, as we have not used the RRAs yet. But, when I am in this view, I am unable to see item numbers and max points earned. I am only seeing performance distribution. Is there a setting I need to change to be able to see the item analysis?

A: Item analysis from previous years' state tests is not available in the Centralized Reporting System. The Department and Cambium kept the Online Reporting System open through January 14, 2022 for districts to access item data:
https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/announcements/2021/11/ors_limited_reopening.

Q: If a student is AASCD tested is this something they can still take?

A: Districts can use these for whatever reason they see fit. The RRAs could be a great data point (with obviously many other data points) to determine if the AASCD is the most appropriate test for the student. Current AASCD-eligible students are also permitted to participate in RRAs, but there are not RRAs aligned to our extended learning standards.

Q: If a teacher wants to use the RRA assessments, the district test coordinator (DTC) doesn't have to do anything extra other than provide teachers with students' SSID numbers?

A: Yes, if the DTC has entered the students (SSID) in TIDE (which means the student has been preidentified in TIDE), the students are able to take the RRAs.

Q: With RRA's requiring a pre-ID, is there a possibility to sync the SIS to TIDE (via SFTP) so we don't have to keep adding new students?

A: This is not possible at this time.

Q: How can I set up accommodations for RRA?

A: The teacher would be able to set the student's settings with text-to-speech on the day of the test similar to assigning accommodations for the OSTs.

Q: If a teacher has all 6th grade students for math, for example, and test tickets are printed for that entire group, without a roster, will the teacher still receive data?

A: The results for the students taking the RRA will report in CRS and can be accessed by the TE. If assistance is required in accessing the results, please contact the Ohio Help Desk at ohhelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com.

Q: Can districts put students who are not in a value added course into TIDE without causing an issue so students can take one of the RRAs?

A: Yes, TIDE doesn't communicate with other systems like EVAAS, EMIS, etc., so you could load students into TIDE solely for the purpose of giving them RRAs.

Q: To use the RRA as an instructional tool, like the example given to complete the question as a class during instruction, does the teacher need to enter a student's SSID number in order to access the questions?

A: Yes, a student would need to log-in with an SSID in order to access the questions for the teacher.

Q: Do the RRAs qualify as High Quality Student Data (HQSD) for OTES 2.0?

A: It is a local decision made by districts to determine if the benchmark assessments can be used to meet criteria for OTES 2.0.

Q: Are teachers able to print their own student test tickets? Do they need to be shredded after the administration of the RRA? Is this a violation of testing security?

A: Yes, teachers are capable of printing their own test tickets in TIDE. Because the SSID is confidential, they should be securely shredded after administration (or at least stored in a secure location). Is it a violation of test security? No, but your local district may have specific policy as it pertains to retention and destruction of confidential numbers like the SSID. Information on how teachers and test administrators can print test tickets is available on page 61 of the TIDE User Guide: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/tide-support-documents/tide-user-guide.

Benchmark Tests

Q: Are the questions different on the second take of the Benchmark, or is it the same test again if they take it twice?

A: On the Benchmark tests, each opportunity for that grade benchmark test does have the same questions.

Q: How do we monitor which students have not taken the benchmark assessment?

A: Districts can run participation reports for these assessments in TIDE.

Q: Are the questions on the benchmark assessment for a given grade/subject the same questions that are on the checkpoint assessments for that grade/subject?

A: It's possible there could be an item that appears on both a checkpoint and a benchmark, but you're typically going to find completely different items between the benchmarks and checkpoints.

Q: Can you clarify about what it means to take an RRA twice. Does this mean there are 4 checkpoints test per reporting category per student?

A: If a subject has two checkpoints (like grade 3 ELA), the student can take EACH checkpoint twice. So for example, if grade 3 ELA has two reading literary text checkpoints, they can take EACH of those checkpoints twice.

Q: If a 4th grader takes a 5th grade benchmark test twice this year will they be able to take the 5th grade benchmark test again next year? (if the RRA is available next year)

A: Yes. Participation eligibility is determined by school year, and a student's attempts reset at the beginning of the schoolyear.

Vendor Questions

Q: Will a test administrator have access to the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) to see their student results?

A: No, a user that only has a test administrator (TA) role does not have access to CRS. Users that both administer tests and view results in CRS need a teacher (TE) user role. The full online user role matrix is here: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/tide-support-documents/online-user-role-matrix.

Q: Do DTCs need to re-add existing users to give them access to the CRS system or have their user permissions been transferred from Online Reporting System (ORS)?

A: No, the user permissions for CRS are the same as ORS. Any user that had access to ORS automatically has access to CRS.

Q: If a user has teacher access on the CRS, will the teacher only see data that is rostered to them or will they see all student data from their building? Will they see other teachers' roster data? In the ORS they can see all building data, not just their own.

A: In CRS, teachers can only see data for students on their rosters. They cannot see other teachers' roster data. Rosters can be created for teachers by district test coordinator (DTC), district administrator (DA), building test coordinator (BTC) and teacher (TE) users.

Q: So what is the lowest version of ChromeOS the testing app will work with?

A: For the 2021-2022 school year the minimum version of Chrome OS for testing is 91. For more details, visit the Technology Coordinator page on the test portal: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/technology-coordinators.html.

Q: Is a TE the classroom teacher and a TA would possibly be an aide who is overseeing testing? And a TE has more ability to see data while a TA does not?

A: Districts and schools assign the role of teacher (TE) and test administrator (TA) to staff positions such as a classroom teacher and an instructional aide. Both roles of TE and TA have access to the TA (test administrator) Interface to administer tests. The difference between these roles is that only the TE role has access to the CRS; the TA role is unable to access the CRS. For more information on user roles, see the User Role Matrix on the test portal: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/tide-support-documents/online-user-role-matrix.

Q: When I pull up spring 2021 tests, I'm only seeing 4th grade math teachers assigned to every test. They are attached to third and fourth grade ELA and third math. Is the system fully up and running or is this a glitch in the system?

A: All historical data, including rosters, has been migrated from ORS to CRS. Teacher data in CRS is based on rosters. For more information on how to create and use rosters, visit the CRS Resources on the test portal: https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/online-systems-resources/centralized-reporting-system-resources.

Q: Is it mandatory to always update the date on the My Settings before generating the reports? That is what I had to do for the summer end-of-course tests (EOC) and unless I did this, not everyone was included or their grade level was blank.

A: No, it is not mandatory to update the date on My Settings. The default setting for the Reporting Time Period is the current year and current date. In many cases the default setting will be sufficient for the data needed.
In the case of Summer 2021, the Summer OST administration is a part of the 2020-2021 school, which requires using the Change Reporting Time Period Function to change back to that prior school year.

Q: Are we able to add all of our rosters via the upload roster task?

A: Yes, roster upload files may contain one roster or multiple rosters in the upload.

Q: So are rosters basically how you are dividing them in rooms?

A: Yes, rosters can be used to group students for any purpose.

Q: Are more reports or result reports available when students are added to rosters by teachers?

A: Yes. See the CRS resources on the test portal for more information.

Q: Can you filter by special education eligibility, or would you have to roster that for the whole district?

A: Filter by special education eligibility is not available. Rosters can be created for this purpose at the school level.

Q: Will teachers have grade level access to scores without a roster if they have the TE role?

A: No. Rosters are required for TE users to view scores in CRS.