An ADE Newsletter for Test Coordinators

The Examiner

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Assessment | Arizona Department of Education

The Assessment Team has been busy preparing for next year's tests and have gathered important information during test observations to incorporate some overall improvements. It is always good for us to be out in the field. We saw some great processes and procedures implemented at the local level for testing! Thank you DTCs for all your dedication and efforts and thank you Arizona Educators for another successful Spring Testing Season.

Completed Tests for Spring 2019
AzMERIT 4,397,386 (ELA and Math)
AIMS Science tested 246,131
AZELLA Placement 39,283, Reassessment 85,572
AIMS A Science 2,882 in grades 4, 8, and 10
MSAA 12,649 (as of today)

Changes Coming for PAN!
We have heard the feedback regarding *PearsonAccess^next^*. We have also shared your concerns with Pearson. Pearson has been very busy and will begin development on some new enhancements to improve the system. Arizona DTCs were gathered to work directly with Pearson through dedicated focus groups to help guide and transform this system.

NEW Combined Assessment Test Coordinator and Security Agreement Form
Every school year the Arizona Department of Education requires an updated *Assessment Test Coordinator and Test Security Agreement* form to be completed with all required signatures and filed for each district and charter. For 2019-2020 we have combined these forms. This new format will allow us to have a single document!
All district/charters are asked to submit the form for School Year 2019-2020 by **May 31, 2019**. This form requires the names, signatures, and contact information for each of the Achievement Testing, Alternate Assessment, and AZELLA District Test Coordinators. This form can be found on the ADE District Test Coordinators website. Completed forms can be scanned and emailed to Testing@azed.gov.

Exciting News!
The State Board and ADE have released a Five-Year Assessment Plan. This included renaming the test and extending the contract for AzMERIT for the next two years, changing the high school assessment to a single grade, and beginning the development of a new RFP for Statewide Assessment for ELA and Mathematics. The RFP process will begin in summer 2019. ADE is excited to bring stakeholders together for this process. I am looking forward to the changes that are coming as we are always striving to ensure continuous improvements to testing experiences for Arizona Educators and our students!

2019-2020 Test Administrations Dates

There will be no Fall 2019 EOC testing.

	Summer 2019 EOC only
ELA and Math Computer-Based Test Window	**Session I: June 3 - June 28, 2019** **Session II: July 8 - August 2, 2019**
Reporting Dates	**Aug. 15** online reports available in ORS **Sept. 17-18** paper reports arrive in districts
	Spring 2020
Science	**March 23 - April 17, 2020**
ELA and Math Computer-Based Test Window	**March 30 - April 24, 2020** (Writing must be completed by April 10.)
ELA and Math Paper-Based Test Window	**March 30 - April 8, 2020** (Writing must be scheduled for March 30 or 31.)
ELA and Math **Reporting Dates**	**May 15** Gr. 3 online reports available in ORS **May 22** All grades online reports available in ORS

AzMERIT

Spring 2019 Score Reports

Grade 3

- May 15 - Online reports, including student data files, will be available in ORS.
- May 24 - Paper copies of the Family Reports will be delivered to districts.

Grades 4 – 8 & EOC

- May 24 - Online reports, including student data files, will be available in ORS.
- June 21 - Paper copies of the Family Reports will be delivered to districts.

Individual student reports: One copy is distributed to parents/guardians, and the other is placed in the student's secure file, once it is received.

Per 15-741.F, districts may request a district data file. This new district data file includes additional student and item information, including: item type, theta scores by reporting category, scale score by reporting category, number of items by reporting category and other relevant data points not contained in the standard data files. All requests should be submitted to ADE by June 7, 2019.

Summer 2019 EOC Testing

The Summer 2019 District Test Coordinator Important Tasks Checklist will be available on the ADE website and within the AzMERIT Portal by May 13. Districts/Charters will be responsible for uploading their own students into TIDE.

The current District Test Coordinator for school year 2018-2019 will be responsible for the administration of the Summer 2019 EOC. If a District Test Coordinator will not be available during some or the entire summer test window, contact AzMERIT@azed.gov for additional information.

Summer Training

District Test Coordinators who completed the Pre-Test Training for Spring 2019 will not be required to complete another training for summer administration. The Pre-Test Trainings are still available online for review.

District Test Coordinators are responsible to oversee:

- training any test administrators who did not previously administer AzMERIT during the school year 2018-2019
- verifying that a current security agreement is on file for all test administrators
- monitoring the summer test administration

Any new test administrators must be added to TIDE and must also complete the Test Administrator Certification Course available on the AzMERIT portal. Test Administrators that have completed the Certification Course for the spring of 2019 will remain certified throughout the summer.

Students to Test

Students who are on track to complete a one-credit course aligned to one of the first three years of English credits or one of the first three years of mathematics credits required for high school graduation during the summer semester should participate in the appropriate AzMERIT EOC test(s) during the Summer 2019 test window.

AIMS Science

Spring 2019 Score Reports

DTCs will have access to all district and school reports in PearsonAccessnext (PAN). If you are the District Test Coordinator and you will not be available when the reports are posted, you may add users in PAN now with the STC role to have access to the individual school reports.

Grades 4, 8, and High School

- May 14 – Online reports (including student data files) will be available in PAN.
- May 30 – Paper copies of the Individual Student Reports will be delivered to districts.

Student score reports will be returned to schools based on where the student was registered in PearsonAccessnext on the last day of the test window.

Assessing the new Science Standards

This summer, we will be inviting educators to review prototype items for the Science assessment that will measure the newly adopted standards. If you have teachers in your district/charter that are interested in participating in any assessment committee, please ask them to apply. The application can be found on our site at: http://www.azed.gov/assessment/educators/.

AIMS Science & AzMERIT

The Corrections Application lists students with unmatched AzMERIT test records. These records must be corrected so that students count as being tested for Accountability. The AzMERIT Corrections application in located in ADEConnect and the AIMS Science Corrections Application is listed under Assessments in ADEConnect.

Corrections must be completed by June 15. Check the next issue of Accountability's "The Grader" Newsletter for the final date for corrections to be made.

ADE's New Corrections Application

A new Assessment Corrections App is coming next school year. The current AzMERIT and AIMS Science test records, in the program specific applications, cannot be moved into the new application. Review and where it is applicable, update the test record demographics in all test years.

To view the current Corrections Applications, you must have the "Achievement District Test Coordinator" role or the "Achievement" role in ADEConnect. If the District Test Coordinator will not be available during this time, please ensure that someone with an appropriate ADEConnect role is responsible to complete any necessary corrections.

DTC Testing Survey

The ADE Assessment Section is seeking your feedback on the Spring 2019 AzMERIT test administration. This survey is intended only for District Test Coordinators so please do not forward this link. This survey will close at noon on Friday, May 17. Please click here to access the survey.

New Combined Assessment Test Coordinator and Test Security Agreement Form

This form can be found on the ADE District Test Coordinators website.

Test Accommodations

As your Special Education staff conduct their IEP meetings, please remind them that no accommodation may be used solely for assessment. All accommodations should be documented in the student's IEP and used routinely in instruction. If an accommodation is not deemed necessary to access content or demonstrate proficiency during instruction, the accommodation may not be used for access in an assessment context.

What this means for state Achievement testing:

- No Large Print tests may be ordered for ELA, Math, or Science tests unless language is written in the IEP that the student must have all classroom materials (text, assignments, benchmark assessments, etc.) printed in large print format during the school year **and** the student cannot access content for instruction or assessment using a computer.

- No Special Paper Version tests will be approved unless it is written in the IEP that the student is unable to access content using a computer for classroom instruction or local assessments.

We will be requiring screenshots (without student identifiable information) of the IEP language that includes these instructional accommodations for Special Paper Version requests.

If you have any questions regarding AzMERIT, please email AzMERIT@azed.gov.
If you have any question regarding AIMS Science, please email AIMSScience@azed.gov.

AIMS A Science

Congratulations on completing the 2019 AIMS A Science administration!

Thank you for a great administration! About 2,800 students in Grades 4, 8, and 10 participated in AIMS A Science this year.

For those who have not done so already, please remember to inventory and return the AIMS A Science performance task materials.

We are currently preparing for reporting. The reporting portal will be open May 6 - 31, 2019. Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators must download and securely save the District Demographics Report, School Roster Report, Data File, and Student Reports from the AIMS A Science system through ADEConnect during this window.

Hard copies of the 2019 AIMS A Science student reports will be shipped to the Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator. One copy is distributed to parents/guardians and the other is placed in the student's secure file.

2019 MSAA Test Administration - Final Preparations

Instructions for the final steps to administer MSAA were e-mailed recently. Please monitor to ensure that all students have completed testing (ELA and math) by May 3, 2019. All tests must display a final status using one of the following: **Submitted**, **Closed**, or **Not Started**. Once the testing window closes, there will be no access to the MSAA system, and there is no final closeout.

The test window for MSAA will close at 5:00pm MST on Friday, May 3, 2019.

MSAA End of Test Survey (EOTS)

Test Administrators are required to complete one EOTS survey. The TA will complete this through the Actions Button for one student; however, the survey allows for opportunities to provide feedback on multiple students through one survey. The MSAA EOTS does not impact the submission of the students' tests. The information collected from these surveys will provide valuable information for future administrations as well as allow TAs to provide feedback to the state and MSAA.

The EOTS must be completed by the end of MSAA Test Window at 5:00 pm MST on May 3, 2019.

Securely Shredding and Deleting MSAA Test Materials

All MSAA test materials must be securely shredded or deleted at both the school and district level. TCs are responsible for ensuring that test materials have been securely shredded. This includes deleting and emptying the recycle bin for any MSAA test materials (DTAs, printed versions of a student's test, and constructed response items) that were downloaded to a desktop or other locations. See page 26 of the Test Administration Manual (TAM) for guidance. TAMs are not secure test materials and do not have to be shredded. These may be discarded or kept. Do not send these back to ADE.

MSAA Reports

The MSAA reporting portal will be open from August 19 - September 13, 2019. More information will be sent to the TC prior to August 19.

MSAA Instructional Supports

MSAA writing prompt responses are scored based on a rubric. The rubric for each grade is available on the alternate assessment website under MSAA in the "Instructional Supports & Resources" tab and can be used to plan instruction and score student responses throughout the year. While viewing this, review the other great resources in this tab.

Upcoming Trainings

There are several opportunities coming up to support teachers and administrators in the coming months. The Teachers' Institute is June 4-5 with many great presentations for teachers including one on teaching grade level standards to students with significant cognitive disabilities. The Transition Conference and Directors' Institute is the week of August 19. Both conferences will have presentations that address current topics.

In addition to these great conferences, look for alternate assessment webinars on topics such as eligibility considerations for school psychologists, using your MSAA data, and test coordinator roles and responsibilities.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

We are two years into the implementation of ESSA. As previously noted, there have been significant changes in calculating the 1% Cap. In the past, LEAs were allowed to count up to 1% of their students that participated in the State's Alternate Assessment as proficient. The new language in ESSA allows states to test up to 1% of their students on the State's Alternate Assessment. Furthermore, under federal regulation, the state is required to "provide appropriate oversight to each LEA that the State anticipates will assess more than 1.0% of its assessed students...using alternate assessments aligned with alternate academic achievement standards." An LEA may test students who qualify for alternate assessment, even if that participation means that the LEA will exceed 1%. This is then addressed with the Action Plan that the LEA develops and submits to ADE as part of the monitoring requirement. Webinars have been developed and posted for more information on the Action Plan process and Eligibility Criteria.

If you have any questions regarding Alternate Assessments, please e-mail AssessingSWDs@azed.gov.

AZELLA | Arizona English Language Learner Assessment

Wrapping-up AZELLA for School Year 2018 – 2019

Spring 2019 Reassessment Score Reports

- ADE conducted a final review of the Pearson electronic reports for the 2019 Spring Reassessment. Electronic copies of the reports and the student data files will be posted on *PearsonAccess^next* (PAN) on **Friday, May 3, 2019**. The test records will be on the EL70 Reports or in the AZELLA Corrections application in ADEConnect around the same time.

- **Tuesday, May 14, 2019** – paper copies of the score reports will be delivered to districts.

- **Friday, September 27, 2019** – All School Year 2018 – 2019 results will be removed from PAN.

Please refer to the *AZELLA Spring 2019 AZELLA Reassessment PearsonAccess^next User's Guide* (Part 4, pages 105-107) for the directions to view, download, and save the **AZELLA Spring 2019 Reassessment Published Test Results and the Student Data File.**

AZELLA Corrections Application

The AZELLA Corrections application in ADEConnect lists students with unmatched test records for both Placement and Reassessment testing. **All School Year 2018 – 2019 Placement Test and Reassessment Test corrections must be completed by June 15, 2019.**

School Year 2018 – 2019 Placement Testing

The final scoring cycle for 2018 – 2019 AZELLA Placement Testing closes on **Friday, May 17, 2019**. All administration of the Placement Test must be complete, and key entered by May 17. The final Placement Test results for 2018 – 2019 will be posted in PAN on June 6, 2019, with the paper Student Reports arriving at the district on June 13, 2019. A district employee must be available to sign for the delivery of this package.

AZELLA Testing for School Year 2019 – 2020

NEW Combined Assessment Test Coordinator and Test Security Agreement Form!

This document must be submitted to Testing@azed.gov before AZELLA testing can begin.

The AZELLA District Test Coordinator's PearsonAccess^next account for School Year 2019 – 2020 Placement Test administration will be enabled after ADE verifies that the STC has completed all the required training modules and the *Assessment Test Coordinator and Test Security Agreement* form has been completed with the required signatures and submitted to ADE.

Placement Testing 2019 – 2020

- An 11-digit SSID will be required to create and register students in PAN for Placement testing. Leading zeros must be used.

- Retain current inventory of the AZELLA Kindergarten Placement Test and the Stage II Placement Test materials since these tests continue to be administered via paper-and-pencil.

- AZELLA Placement Stages III, IV, and V continue to be computer-based tests using TestNav. Give students an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the testing application, navigation, and tools by allowing them to take (at least a few items of each unit of) the Sample Test.

- **July 8, 2019**
    - *Understand Scoring* opens with training and qualifications for **AZELLA Kindergarten Placement Test Administrators, and AZELLA Stage II Writing Scorers. All users must create a new login User ID and password for School Year 2019 – 2020.**
    - Annual **AZELLA Placement Test Training** and **Test Security and Ethics Training** open for AZELLA District Test Coordinators through a new system provided by Pearson, the Arizona Training Management System. AZELLA District Test Coordinators will be sent an email with login information by July 8.
- **July 9, 2019** – **After an AZELLA District Test Coordinator's** (DTC) *PearsonAccess^next* account is enabled by ADE, the DTC may place an order for additional Kindergarten and Stage II Placement Test materials and add additional district and school user accounts in PAN.
- **July 15, 2019** – Student Placement Test registration opens in *PearsonAccess^next* (PAN) once the AZELLA District Test Coordinator's PAN account has been enabled by ADE.
- **Before any Placement Test administration begins and access to PAN by all additional AZELLA staff is granted** (School Test Coordinators, District/School Technology Coordinators, Test Administrators, Data Entry clerks, and proctors)**,** the AZELLA District Test Coordinator is **REQUIRED** to **personally train** all AZELLA staff in Test Security and Ethics and AZELLA Placement Test Training. All staff who have access to AZELLA paper and online materials MUST sign the AZELLA Test Security Agreement for School Year 2019 – 2020 prior to test administration and/or access to PAN.
- **2 weeks prior to the first day of school** – Administration of the AZELLA Placement Test may begin for students with a language other than English on their PHLOTE form and/or on their School Enrollment form, provided all the 2019 – 2020 requirements have been met by the AZELLA DTC **and** the AZELLA staff who will be administering the tests.
- **Within the first 2 weeks of school for SY 2019 – 2020**:
    - Prior school year Kindergarten students (Grade 1 for 2019 – 2020) who were **NOT** administered the Spring 2019 Reassessment Test, may be administered the Stage II Placement Test. (This is not required but may be in the best interest of the student's academic needs.)
    - Students who are showing as EL Group 8 on the EL73 Report must be administered a **full** AZELLA Placement Test to determine eligibility for EL Services.
    - Students who completed an ELD summer course and **qualify** for the Moving from EL Services to Mainstream referral may be administered a **full** AZELLA Placement Test. Students who qualify for this start-of-school year Placement testing and are tested, will **NOT** be eligible for the Mid-Year Placement Testing in November – December 2019.

The AZELLA 2019 – 2020 Placement Test District Student File Layout will be posted on PearsonAccess^next Placement Test administration in the Support >> Documentation section.

Spring 2020 AZELLA Reassessment Test window is February 3 – March 20, 2020. Stages I and II will be pencil-and-paper tests and Stages III–V will be administered online.

NEW AZELLA Corrections Application – Coming Soon
- School Year 2019 – 2020 brings a new Corrections application. Those with access will be able to correct all student demographics using one process. The application will provide possible matches based on the demographics on the test record for the user to choose from directly in the application. This new feature will eliminate the need for the user to search on other ADE reports for possible matches.

2019 – 2020 AZELLA Placement Test Scoring Cycles

Cycle	Last key entry date of student responses and scores in *PearsonAccess^next*	Electronic results posted in PearsonAccess^next; Placement Test record to EL70 Report or AZELLA Corrections Application	Paper reports from Pearson arrive at District offices
1	8/2/2019	8/22/2019	9/5/2019
2	8/16/2019	9/5/2019	9/12/2019
3	8/30/2019	9/19/2019	9/26/2019
4	9/13/2019	10/3/2019	10/10/2019
5	10/11/2019	10/31/2019	11/7/2019
6	11/15/2019	12/5/2019	12/12/2019
7	12/20/2019	1/9/2020	1/16/2020
8	1/24/2020	2/13/2020	2/20/2020
9	2/21/2020	3/5/2020	3/12/2020
10	3/20/2020	4/9/2020	4/16/2020
11	4/17/2020	5/7/2020	5/14/2020
12	5/15/2020	6/4/2020	6/11/2020

OELAS Updates – Save the Dates

- **Summer 2019 – ELD Summit**
  - June 11-12 in Page
  - June 17-18 in Humboldt
  - July 15-16 in Buckeye
  - July 17-18 in Somerton
  - August 19-20 in Paradise Valley
  - August 28-29 in Tucson
  - Cost is $30 or $40, depending on the session
  - Registration is now open!
- **July 29, 2019 – EL Coordinator Boot Camp**
  - Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix, cost is $85
  - Registration is now open!

- **September 2019, *Date TBD* – PELL**
  - Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix, cost will be $85
  - Registration will be open in May 2019
- **December 11 – 13, 2019 – 2019 OELAS Conference**

  JW Marriott Starr Pass in Tucson, cost will be $395

  Registration will open in August 2019

  Keep an eye out in the upcoming weeks for:
  - OELAS Conference Session Proposal Forms
  - Arizona EL Teacher of the Year Nomination Forms
  - Arizona EL Student Success Story Nomination Forms

If you have any questions regarding AZELLA, please email AZELLA@azed.gov

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is preparing for NAEP 2020. NCES will be administering a national *2019-2020 Long-Term Trend* (LTT) assessment. Since the early 1970s, NAEP has monitored student performance in mathematics and reading through long-term trend assessments. These assessments measure students' educational progress over long time periods to look for and monitor trends in performance. Because the NAEP LTT assessments will be conducted at the national level only, there will be no state level results reported. NCES will be administering the LTT assessments on the following dates:

- Age 13: October 14 - December 20, 2019
- Age 9: January 6 - March 13, 2020
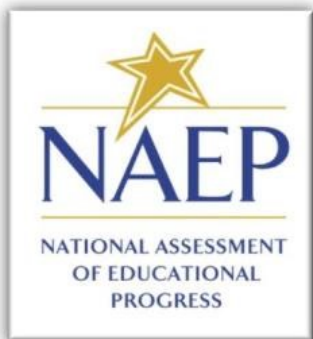- Age 17: March 16 - May 22, 2020

The *2019-2020 School Survey on Crime and Safety* (SSOCS) is a study about crime and safety in public schools. It collects information from principals on incidence, frequency, and nature of unsafe behaviors affecting students and school personnel, as well as practices and programs developed to provide a safe school environment. Additionally, a validation study comparing items on SSOCS and similar items on the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) will be conducted during the summer of 2019 with a small number of schools and districts. Collection will begin in February 2020 and end in June 2020. SSOCS data is a key component of the *Indicators of School Crime and Safety* report and is frequently requested by the administration and Congress.

The *2019-2020 Use of Educational Technology for Instruction in Public Schools* survey will be a survey of principals that will be fielded from the beginning of the school year through June. Data will be collected regarding access to internet and computing technology in schools. The information will be used to help the Department modify the National Education Technology Plan.

The grade 8 collection for the *Middle Grades Longitudinal Study of 2017-18* (MGLS:2017) is the follow-up to the study that examines the experiences and progress of a cohort of grade 6 students. Contacts will start in September 2019 with data collection beginning in January 2020. Information will be collected from principals, teachers, students and parents in these schools as was done for the grade 6 collection.

NCES will be field testing for the *High School and Beyond 2020* (HS&B:20) study. Data collection activities will include surveys of principals, teachers, school counselors, students, and parents and will include administration of short reading and math assessments to students within the sampled schools. HS&B is frequently used by researchers to better understand the impacts of high school experiences on long-term life outcomes. The first full data collection is scheduled for the fall of 2020.

Both *Program for International Student Assessment* (PISA) and the *Progress in International Reading Literacy Study* (PIRLS) will have pilots as part of our 2019-2020 international assessment cycle. These pilot assessments will occur in the spring of 2020.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:
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