9-12 District Test Coordinator Bulletin June 2020

Note: Please maintain a copy or have access to all articles throughout the year for your reference. Past 9-12 newsletters are located at this [link](#).

New! OST Summer 2020 Testing Cancellation

Due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) health crisis, the summer administration of the 2020 Ohio's State Tests has been cancelled. This cancellation encompasses the **grade 3 English language arts test** and all **high school end-of-course tests**. The Department will continue to provide [updates on state testing](#) as they become available.

New! OGT Administration

The 2019-2020 **Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT)** administration reopened May 26 and will close on July 31, 2020. The Test Administrator (TA) Interface and the Data Entry Interface (DEI) are accessible on the [Ohio Graduation Tests Resources](#) page on the test portal. The Student Testing Site is accessible via the Secure Browser.

NEW! Science and Social Studies Updated Assessment Materials to be Released June 30th

The updated science and social studies assessment materials presented below will be released on **June 30 on the test portal.** Pease note the social studies assessments refer to the high school American history and American government assessments.

The **science and social studies updated [test specifications](#)** provide an overview of the structure and content of Ohio's State Test. This overview includes a description of the test design as well as information on the types of items that will appear on the test. Also included is a test blueprint, a document that identifies the range and distribution of points grouped by reporting categories. The test specifications also provide specific guidelines for the development of all items used for Ohio's State Tests in Science and Social Studies.

The **science and social studies [test blueprints](#)** have been updated to reflect the 2018 Ohio Learning Standards for Science and Social Studies. Test blueprints serve as a guide for test construction and provide an outline of the content and skills to be measured on the test. They contain information about individual tests, including the number of points on the test and how the learning standards are grouped in reporting categories.

The **[half-length practice tests](#)** now reflect the 2018 Ohio Learning Standards for Science and Social Studies. Updated half-length practice tests are available for each of the state tests. Practice test items allow students to become familiar with the online test environment by showcasing the different item types, features, and functionality available to students during online testing.

The **[Practice Test Scoring Guides](#)** have also been updated to reflect the 2018 Ohio Learning Standards for Science and Social Studies. The Practice Test Scoring Guides provide answer keys and scoring guidance for each Ohio's State Tests. They include the item type, the content standard and content statement assessed, an answer key, and the number of points associated with each item. They also include the guidelines for scoring (i.e., scoring rubrics), sample responses and notes on scoring and rationales that describe why response options are correct or incorrect.

The **[Performance Level Descriptors](#)** (PLDs) have been updated to reflect the 2018 Ohio Learning Standards for Science and Social Studies. The PLDs are the link between Ohio's Learning Standards and performance standards. They were developed by Ohio educators and other content experts to illustrate the typical

demonstration of the learning for each of the five performance levels: Limited, Basic, Proficient, Accelerated and Advanced. Teachers can review the PLDs for each grade level or subject to match each descriptive statement with its course standards. Teachers can then review local curriculum materials to see if opportunities are being given to students to demonstrate deeper conceptual understanding of course content at the different performance levels.

For questions about these materials regarding science assessment, please email Thomas.Bulgrin@education.ohio.gov.

Family Score Reports for Fall 2019 End-of-Course Tests

With the ordered school-building closure, the shipment of family score reports for the fall 2019 high school administration are being held. Please look for future communication regarding the shipment of the family reports. Districts may print Individual Score Reports from the Online Reporting System.

New! Providing Services to English Learners during the COVID-19 Outbreak

On May 18th, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education released a comprehensive fact sheet on service provision for English learners during the COVID-19 outbreak. The document offers information and guidance to state and local education agencies on English language proficiency assessments, English learner identification and exit procedures, services for English learners, use of Title III funds and communication with families of English learners. Fact Sheet: Providing Services to English Learners during the COVID-19 Outbreak.

New! OELPA Results

Results of the Spring 2020 Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) administration are available in the Online Reporting System.

Students who did not complete all required domain tests due to the ordered school-building closure, or other reasons such as spring break or absence will receive a proficiency status of Progressing or Emerging, as described in the Spring 2020 Understanding OELPA Results Manual.
- **Students who score Proficient.** Students who achieve a proficiency status of Proficient will exit English learner status and be reclassified accordingly.
- **Students who score Progressing or Emerging.** For students who achieve a proficiency status of Progressing or Emerging, schools will determine and provide the appropriate services to ensure students' development of English language proficiency and access to the curriculum.

For questions about the Spring 2020 OELPA results, please email statetests@education.ohio.gov.

New! OELPA Family Reports

OELPA Family Reports from the 2020 spring administration will be delivered to schools and districts. A communication will be sent with the date of the delivery when the schedule is finalized. Districts and schools should arrange staff to sign for the delivery. Translated family reports for OELPA results are available on the Department website to help schools notify parents about their child's achievement on the OELPA.

New! OELPS for School Year 2020-2021

The Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS) is scheduled to be available the week of August 6, 2020, to assist schools in identifying students as English learners for the 2020-2021 school year.

ELPA21 Resources for Remote English Learner Instruction

To support English learners' learning at home, ELPA21 has curated a collection of resources for families and educators of English learners. The collection includes ELPA21 practice tests (with instructions in multiple languages) and a variety of language learning resources.

New! Spring 2020 AASCD Score Reports

Due to the school building closures caused by the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Department was unable to meet with educators to establish performance standards for the new AASCD. Without cut scores, students that completed AASCD testing in the spring cannot be assigned scores and districts will not receive score reports for the 2020 AASCD administration. The postponed standard setting has been rescheduled for spring 2021.

New! Updates to the AASCD Online Practice Tests

The AASCD online practice tests will be updated for the 2020-2021 school year on **June 30**. Updates for the June 30 release include:

- Increasing the number of questions to 20 per test;
- Removing the password requirement to exit out of full screen mode;
- Adding the early stopping rule after the first 4 items of each test; and
- Adding the item-level scoring for each question and a score summary at the end of each practice test, similar to what is currently available on OST practice tests.

Students can access the Practice Test Site on the AASCD test portal via any supported web browser. The Practice Test Site allows students to experience the sign-in process, navigate the online testing system, use the available tools and features and become familiar with online testing. Administrators should access the TA Practice Site on the AASCD test portal to experience starting a session, approving students to test and to become familiar with online testing, prior to administering the spring 2021 AASCD Operational Field Test.

The 2020-2021 AASCD Practice Site Guidance Document will be available on the AASCD test portal on **June 30**. Please review this guidance document for details on using the online practice test sites. AASCD Practice Test Scoring Guides will also be made available on June 30 under the Student Practice Resources page of the AASCD test portal. These scoring guides will provide the extended standard, item target level, access limitations, answer key, reporting category and notes on scoring information for each item on the AASCD half-length practice tests. They will also include screen shots and the scripts for each stimulus and item.

Return of AASCD Spring 2020 Testing Materials

Districts are requested to return spring 2020 AASCD secure testing materials to the vendor when the district feels it is safe to return to the building to do so. Districts that are returning materials should contact the Ohio Help Desk at 1-877-231-7809 and select option 7, or email the Ohio Help Desk at ohhelpdesk@air.org and provide the date and time range for the pickup (please provide the earliest available pickup time and the latest). Districts may also drop-off their secure materials directly to a UPS store for return shipment.

Districts that are not returning to the building within the next few weeks should continue to maintain the materials under proper security procedures outlined in the AASCD Test Administration Manual until such time as they can return them safely.

Secure test materials for the AASCD are the following:
- test booklets;
- stimulus booklets;
- paper response options (including the plastic bags that they were packaged in); and
- optional student response forms (if used).

New! WorkKeys Reimbursement
Information about WorkKeys Reimbursement is located on the [Reimbursement for WorkKeys Tests](#) page on the Department's website.

FY20 (2019-2020 school year): Please have all FY20 (2019-2020 school year) WorkKeys reimbursement applications uploaded by **June 30, 2020**. If you need assistance with applications, please email Noël at noel.nethers@education.ohio.gov.

ACT/SAT Fall 2020 Dates
For the state-sponsored ACT and SAT tests, the Department is providing fall opportunities for districts and students that were scheduled to test in spring but were unable to do so.
- Dates for **ACT** fall testing are Sept. 22, Oct. 6 and Oct. 22. Any fall state-sponsored ACT test administrations will be conducted in paper format only.
- Fall **SAT** testing dates are scheduled for Sept. 23 and Oct. 14 with make-up testing Oct. 28. Any fall state-sponsored SAT test administrations will be conducted in paper format only.

The Department will communicate more information on options for these additional testing opportunities as soon as possible.

ACT/SAT Spring 2021 Dates
Complete schedule information for the state-funded ACT and SAT testing and links to the vendors' websites are located on the Department website at these webpages: [State-Funded ACT Tests](#) and [State-Funded SAT Tests.](#) Please contact Michael Reiser at (614) 644-7305 or michael.reiser@education.ohio.gov for more information.

Online Testing Technology: 2020-2021
Reminder: Microsoft stopped supporting Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 and 2008 R2 after Jan. 14, 2020. Microsoft will no longer provide security patches or updates for these operating systems. When an operating system manufacturer ends support for an operating system in the middle of the school year, the Department maintains support for that operating system until the end of the school year. Testing support for Windows 7 will no longer be available after the 2019-2020 school year. Schools and districts that have not upgraded from Windows 7 by the end of the school year must plan to do so before the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update on Ordered School - Building Closure
The Department continues to provide updates on the [Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information](#) webpage. Recent additions provide information on graduation ceremonies and gifted education.

[Updates for state testing information](#) cover multiple testing programs and available resources. The Department will provide updates as they become available and as we achieve a better understanding of the future impact of the current crisis.