

Note: New articles/information or articles that have been updated since the previous newsletter will have "NEW!" in the title of the article. Articles will not be repeated more than 2-3 months. Please maintain or have access to all articles throughout the year for your reference.

K-8 District Test Coordinator Bulletin November 2018

Key Dates

Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS) 2018-2019

June 28, 2019 OELPS administration closes
July 2019 OELPS offline for maintenance

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA)

November 12-16 On-time order window for paper materials
March 29, 2019 Registration window for spring administration 2019 closes

Fall 2018 Ohio's State Tests (OST) – Grade 3 English Language Arts

December 10 Results for online tests available in the Online Reporting System
December 17 Results for paper tests returned on time available in the Online Reporting System

OST, OELPS, OELPA, AASCD, Diagnostics and KRA

NEW! Rules Book

The [2018 Rules Book](#) was posted in October. Please review for the most current information on all state tests including OST, OELPS, OELPA, AASCD, Diagnostics, KRA and OGT. The master version will not be changed but any changes that are made through the year will be posted on the Rules Book page under the heading *Changes*.

New! Inbox Portal Card

A new system card has been added to the users pages for [Teachers/Test Administrators](#) and [Test Coordinators](#). Clicking on the Inbox card will take you directly to your Ohio Assessment Systems Inbox, without the need to access TIDE or ORS first. This card provides a quick way to access files generated in TIDE or ORS, such as student exports or results data files. Access the Inbox using the same login credentials you use to access all other secure testing systems.

NEW! Scheduled System Maintenance

AIR will be conducting periodic maintenance of the testing systems to ensure system stability and reliability throughout the school year. These maintenance periods will occur approximately once a month on Saturday and **can last up to 24 hours**. During a maintenance period some or all systems may be inaccessible, including:

- TIDE;
- Student Testing Site and Practice Test Site;
- TA Interface and TA Practice Site;
- Online Reporting System;

- Teacher Hand Scoring System;
- Data Entry Interface;
- TA Certification Course;
- Assessment Systems Inbox.

The next maintenance is scheduled for **Saturday, Nov. 17, beginning at 9 a.m.** Please watch the [portal](#) for announcements regarding upcoming scheduled maintenance dates.

Requesting Exceptions to Online Testing

Recently, Senate Bill 216 was signed into law. The bill authorizes districts to request either paper or online state tests for grade 3 English language arts and mathematics starting in the 2019-2020 school year. More information about this legislation and requirements for the 2019-2020 school year will be forthcoming.

Ohio's State Tests – English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science

Practice Tests for 2018-2019

The [Practice Test Site](#) was updated for the 2018-2019 school year. These updates include additional items, such as newly released items from the spring 2018 and fall 2017 administrations. Users also will notice an updated look and feel to the login pages, which mirror changes made to the login pages of the student testing site to improve the student experience when logging in. Additionally, when a user selects certain student settings on the Choose Settings login page that affect visual aspects of the site (e.g., Color Choice), the screen will update in real-time with those settings. This should make it easier to select student settings.

Special version practice materials are available. Districts may access large-print practice tests for all grades and subjects on the [Student Practice Resources](#) page of the portal. Braille practice tests are available for students who are blind and read braille. Districts may request braille practice test materials for all grades and subjects by contacting the [Assistive Technology and Accessible Educational Materials Center](#).

Fall 2018 Grade 3 English Language Arts Administration

NEW! Student Results Data Files

Districts' results for students who took the fall 2018 grade 3 English language arts tests online will be posted in the Online Reporting System (ORS) on **Dec. 10**. Students whose scorable documents were returned to DRC according to the instructions in the manual will be posted **Dec. 17** in ORS. Records that require discrepancy resolution will be reported after the records are resolved in TIDE.

Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

NEW! Spring 2019 AASCD Manuals

The spring 2019 AASCD manuals are now available on the Alternate Assessment [Portal](#). The spring 2019 AASCD manuals include information pertaining to both the AASCD Operational Paper (1.0) administration and the AASCD Online Independent Field Test (2.0) administration.

The [AASCD Directions for Administration Manual](#) outlines how teachers/test administrators should prepare for and administer the AASCD assessments. All teachers, test administrators and second raters should review the manuals in advance

of the test window. The [AASCD Test Coordinator's Manual](#) outlines the responsibilities and procedures that district and building test coordinators are to follow for the AASCD assessments.

NEW! Webinars on District Justifications for Alternate Assessment Participation

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each district or community school to submit a justification when it expects to test more than 1 percent of its students using the Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD). If your district expects to test more than 1 percent of its students using the alternate assessment, you must submit the online justification between **Nov. 5** and **Dec. 10**. [Find samples here](#) of this year's justification form and an optional school-level form.

Two webinars were presented in October to discuss alternate assessment updates and the revised 1 percent participation justification form. [Access information](#) for the webinar is available.

Ohio Learning Standards-Extended (Revised September 2018)

On Sept. 18, 2018, the State Board of Education adopted the revised grade-level Ohio's Learning Standards-Extended for students who are assessed using the Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD). Ohio's Learning Standards-Extended are specific statements of knowledge and skills linked to the expectations in Ohio's Learning Standards. The extensions build a bridge that provides grade-level access for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to the content of Ohio's Learning Standards. The Ohio's Learning Standards-Extended can be found on the [Department's website](#).

Spring 2019 AASCD Online Practice Tests

To differentiate the paper version of the AASCD from the online version of the AASCD, the Department is referring to the paper version as the AASCD 1.0 and the online version as the AASCD 2.0.

In preparation for the move toward online AASCD 2.0 testing, AIR released online AASCD 2.0 practice tests. The AASCD 2.0 practice tests are available for students and administrators on the AASCD portal via the [Student Practice Test Site](#) and [TA Practice Site](#). The Practice Test Site will give students and administrators the opportunity to experience the sign-in process, navigate the online testing system, use the available tools and features, and familiarize themselves with online testing. For administrators, the TA Practice Site will provide an opportunity for TAs to become familiar with the TA Interface, including setting up a test session and monitoring a student's test progress.

The [Student Practice Test Site](#) and the [TA Practice Site](#) can both be accessed via any supported web browser. For more information on AIR-supported web browsers, please refer to the [Online Systems Requirements](#) document available on the AASCD [portal](#). The Practice Test Site also can be accessed via the AIR Secure Browser or Secure Test App, available for download on the AASCD [Secure Browsers](#) page. For more information regarding system requirements and installing the AIR Secure Browser or Secure Test App, please refer to the [Technology Resources](#) available on the AASCD portal. An [AASCD Practice Test Guidance document](#) is available on the AASCD portal to provide districts with step-by-step directions on accessing and navigating the practice sites.

Authorized user accounts are required to log into the [TA Practice Site](#) and set up a practice test session. If you need a user account, talk with your test coordinator. The Practice Test Site sign in process allows for students to be logged in with their first names and SSIDs, as they are entered in [TIDE](#). For this login option, the students also must be preidentified in TIDE as AASCD eligible to access the AASCD practice tests for their enrolled grades. Alternatively, students can access the practice tests as guests using the preselected guest session options to sign in.

The AASCD 2.0 practice tests will be available by individual grade and subject and will consist of approximately five items per practice test. The available practice test items will reflect the item types that AASCD students will be presented with in AASCD 2.0 testing. Test results are not available for AASCD practice tests.

Spring 2019 AASCD Independent Field Test

From **April 15-May 31, 2019**, an independent field test (IFT) for the updated AASCD will be administered across the state. Participation in the independent field test is voluntary but will be an opportunity for alternate assessment test administrators to experience the new online format. It is highly encouraged that districts participate in the AASCD IFT, as doing so will help in the development of future online AASCD tests. Students who are marked in [TIDE](#) as eligible for the spring 2019 paper-based AASCD 1.0 will automatically be eligible for the spring 2019 online AASCD 2.0 IFT.

A [Spring 2019 AASCD Overview](#) is available on the AASCD portal under the Test Administration Resources. This document provides additional information to better assist districts with understanding the differences between the spring 2019 paper operational test (AASCD 1.0), the spring 2019 online independent field test and the spring 2020 online operational field test (AASCD 2.0).

The [Spring 2019 AASCD manuals](#), which include IFT information, are available on the portal. Districts should look for future communications on these and other available resources for the AASCD 2.0.

Student Pre-ID for the Spring 2019 AASCD Independent Field Test

Students who are marked in [TIDE](#) as eligible for the spring 2019 paper-based AASCD (1.0) will automatically be eligible for the spring 2019 online AASCD IFT (2.0). Participating districts will not need to take any additional steps to preidentify an AASCD student as eligible for the IFT. Pre-ID deadlines for the AASCD are available on the [Important Dates](#) page of the AASCD portal. The [Guidance Document for 2018-2019 Ohio Pre-ID Files](#) is available on the AASCD portal. This document provides directions on how to mark students as eligible in TIDE for the AASCD. Remember to use the [2018-2019 Pre-ID layout](#) when preidentifying students in TIDE for the 2018-2019 school year.

Technology Preparedness for the Spring 2019 AASCD Independent Field Test

The spring 2019 AASCD Independent Field Test will be administered online via [AIR's secure browser](#) or [AIRSecureTest app](#). Participating districts need to refer to the [Technology Resources](#) and the [Secure Browsers](#) pages on the AASCD portal for more information regarding installing the secure browser or AIRSecureTest app and the system requirements and technical specifications needed for online testing. Note the secure browser and app and the technology requirements are the same as those for Ohio's State Tests. The Department recommends that a technology coordinator be identified and involved with the technology systems necessary for online testing. In participating districts, test coordinators must work with their technology coordinators to install the secure browser or AIRSecureTest app on each student's testing device prior to the AASCD 2.0 IFT assessment.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS)

NEW! Paper OELPS

The OELPS is an online screener. However, there is a paper format for those students unable to use the online format. Districts with computer situations should contact the Ohio Department of Education at statetests@education.ohio.gov to start the process to determine eligibility for an exception to online testing. Paper tests must be ordered when the enrolled students' needs become identified.

Districts **are not permitted** to order multiple copies of the paper format to store until it is known that a student needs to be screened. The student responses on the paper test must be entered in the Data Entry Interface (DEI), which is the same procedure as the OELPA.

Language Usage Survey

Ohio defines a student who is an English learner as one who has a primary or home language other than English and needs special language assistance to effectively participate in school.

Districts (including community schools) are required to identify and serve students who are English learners. The uniform process begins with the administration of Ohio's [Language Usage Survey](#) to **all new students** upon registration in the school or district. After identifying potential English learners with the Language Usage Survey, schools assess these students' English language proficiency with the OELPS. A school employee then validates the survey and assessment results to complete the identification.

The Department provides [translations of Ohio's Language Usage Survey](#) to assist schools with the identification of potential English learners, as well as immigrant children and youth and students with limited or interrupted formal education.

Districts Must Administer OELPS to Potential English Learners

Districts must administer the **OELPS** to students who are potential English learners. Vendor screeners are not to be used to identify students as English learners. Students who have been screened using a vendor screener are not to be re-screened with the OELPS.

OELPS and Vendor Screeners

The OELPS is the state screener that districts (including community schools) are required to use to identify potential English learners. A district may use a vendor screener to gain additional information, but vendor screeners may not be used in part or entirely for identification of English learners. Chartered nonpublic schools may use the OELPS but are not required to do so.

Accessing the OELPS

The test administrator must use the [TA Interface](#) on the portal to access the OELPS. The test administrator will create a test session for the student. The student will access the OELPS through the district secure browser.

Scoring the OELPS

Districts locally hand score the OELPS constructed-response items in the speaking and writing domains. All other items will be scored by machine immediately after the response has been submitted.

In Step 2, the test administrator will hand score the speaking questions using the 2018-2019 ELPA21 Screener Step Two Speaking Scoring Document. Step 2 hand scoring is completed while the student is taking the OELPS.

It is important that the test administrators read the Teacher Hand Scoring System User Guide before starting the OELPS. In Step 3, the test administrator will hand score the speaking questions using the scoring rubric presented in the [THSS](#). Directions for the hand scoring and the rubric are on page 7 in the THSS User Guide. Please note, the Step 3 rubrics are specific to the items which is why the rubrics are not posted on the portal. The range of points for Step 3 items are 2-5. Step 3 hand scoring is completed after the student logs off. The test administrator must log in to the THSS.

The hand and machine scores are merged for the final score.

No Practice Test for OELPS

There is no practice test for the OELPS. Test administrators who would like to review the screener items and the online functions should review the [OELPA practice site](#) for test administrators. Test administrators should not log in the OELPS as a practice session and use student names. This action could be a potential security violation. The OELPS is a secure state test for Steps 2 and 3.

OELPS Reports and Results

Students will have individual results reported in an Individual Student Report (ISR). The ISR is available in the Online Reporting System (ORS) on the same day of testing, approximately three hours following completion of the test. The information reported on the ISR is as follows:

- Date of screener;
- Domain scores (L, R, S, W) – range 1 – 5; and
- Overall – Emerging, Progressing, Proficient – range 1 – 3.

OELPS results are **not reported** to EMIS, although the code is entered in EMIS to indicate students identified as English learners.

Accommodations

Accommodations are permitted on the OELPS but must be listed on the IEP or 504 Plan. If the IEP or 504 Plan is not available *prior* to the screening, accommodations are not allowed. The domain exemption is an accommodation and follows the same policy regarding the IEP or 504 Plan.

Training

Training for the OELPS is provided by the Department through a PowerPoint posted on the [OELPA](#) webpage. Please direct questions to Paula Mahaley at paula.mahaley@education.ohio.gov and Kurt Taube at kurt.taube@education.ohio.gov. Districts that would like a Skype presentation on the training may contact Paula Mahaley.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA)

NEW! Pre-ID Registration Window

Students identified as English learners must be registered in TIDE for the OELPA to be administered. English learners must be marked in [TIDE](#) with an “O” for online tests or a “P” for paper tests.

NEW! On-time Order Window

The **2019** OELPA On-time order window is **Nov. 12-16**. Please make sure approval has been received for the paper test before the order is placed in [TIDE](#). Remember to order the K-1 Writing Paper Supplement for the K-1 online writing test; do not order the K-12 paper tests as these are not used for the online test.

Early Learning Assessments

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)

Public districts and schools will continue to administer the current KRA. Senate Bill 216 did not eliminate or require changing the KRA. The bill, in Section 5, does require the Early Childhood Comprehensive Assessment Advisory Group, by Sept. 1st, 2019, to study and make recommendations on ways to improve the use and administration of the assessment.

NEW! Securely store KRA kits

Please do not destroy your current KRA administration materials. Please ensure your current KRA administration materials are securely stored. Ordering for the 2019 fall administration will open in May 2019 for obtaining replacement Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Kits for trained teachers.

NEW! Individual Student Reports (ISRs)

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) are for each kindergarten student's KRA results. The results are displayed to show the student's overall performance and area performance in the four areas of a students' development and learning: language and literacy, mathematics, social skills, and physical development and well-being. Each child's ISR includes a score for each area as well as an overall score. The results of the assessment provide teachers with information to help them guide children in their learning and development.

All KRA ISRs are found in the KReady system. We will not be sending out paper copies to the districts. Data Managers and Teachers with a KReady account have access to the ISRs for their students. Please share the KRA ISRs with parents in a way that makes the most sense for your school. For example, your school can mail the report to the student's home or provide it during a parent-teacher conference.

You may find it beneficial to review and share the **KRA Individual Student Report Explanation** guidance document found [here](#). The explanation document, as well as the ISR, are resources to help understand the overall scores and the performance levels.

NEW! Review Language and Literacy Scale Score Reports

The KRA Language and Literacy area may be used to meet the requirement of a reading diagnostic for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee if a district uses the KRA. The **Language and Literacy Scale Score Reports** are available to data managers now. You can generate the scale score within that domain for any student with all Language and Literacy items completed and entered in KReady. Language and Literacy is the only area with the *on-track* and *not on-track* levels. You will see levels that will help identify which students need support in reading right now. Scores of 263 or higher are on-track. Scores of 262 or lower are not on-track. Refer to the [Third Grade Reading Guarantee Guidance Manual](#) to learn more.

NEW! Scale Score Reports

All students with scores reported in the KReady system will receive an overall scaled score, domain scores, and an Individual Student Report. Scaled Score Reports, including the overall scaled score and performance level data, are now available.

The following table explains how scores are reported based upon item completion.

Item Status	Scores Reported	Reporting Categories
Students who complete all items.	Overall score Domain scores (with error band) for each domain. Status = Complete	Demonstrating, Approaching, and Emerging.
Students with one or more "Not Scorable" items.	Overall score Domain scores (with error band) for each domain. Status = Complete with NS	Demonstrating, Approaching, and Emerging.
Students with one or more items missing.	Overall score Domain scores (with error band) for each domain. Status = Some items were not complete	Demonstrating, Approaching, and Emerging.

Item Status	Scores Reported	Reporting Categories
Student who are missing all items.	No overall score No domain scores Status = All items were not complete	Did Not Participate.

The scale score report includes all students in your district with each individual item score, KRA overall scores, and domain scores. This is the report that gets downloaded from the Ready for Kindergarten Online (KReady) system and uploaded to EMIS. This report is available to those users who have a district admin/data manager role within the KReady system. The [KRA Scale Score Report Definition of Fields](#) found [on this page here](#) is a document that outlines and describes each of the data fields in the KRA Scale Score Report.

A how-to document on accessing the KRA district scale score reports has been posted to the [Data Guidelines site](#). Some students might have missing scores on the scale score report. When your district reports to EMIS, you will have to enter three asterisks (***) for each data element that you are supposed to enter for the KRA and then you will choose a reason for why the student was not assessed. The section, Student Assessment Record, in the [EMIS manual](#), lists valid reasons. Reason F fits any case where a student does not receive a score from the KReady system either because the teacher did not enter the scores or because of a technical issue in the system.

NEW! New kindergarten students enrolled after Nov. 1

Do not administer the KRA to students who transferred or enrolled in your school or district after Nov. 1. Do not try to load these students in KReady either. If the student was enrolled in a school or district and administered the KRA previously and results entered in KReady by the previous district, please follow your local procedures to request student records. If you receive a records request from a school or district for a student for which you have the Point of Authority in KReady, please follow your local procedures to provide the Individual Student Report (ISR) to the requesting district.

For more information

[Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Website](#)

KRAHelp@education.ohio.gov

KRA Help Desk:

<http://www.ohio-k12.help/>

Contact Information:

Elizabeth.Sailer@education.ohio.gov

Kimberly.Davis@education.ohio.gov