



**THE PARCC ASSESSMENT SYSTEM: TIMELINE FOR FUTURE GUIDANCE
MARCH 2013**

States are working together in an unprecedented and exciting effort to create and implement the Partnership for Assessment for the Readiness of College and Career (PARCC) assessments. The PARCC assessments in English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy and Mathematics will address a long-standing concern among educators and parents about large-scale student assessments – they have been unable to capture some of the most important skills that we strive to develop in students. The PARCC assessments have been carefully crafted to accomplish this important goal. They will enable teachers, schools, students and parents to gain important insights into how well critical knowledge, skills and abilities essential for young people to thrive in college and careers are being mastered.

Schools, districts and states are eager for information about the design, administration requirements (including technology needs) and data reporting in order to plan for the transition. The following timeline captures the anticipated release of information in the lead up to the first operational assessment in the 2014-15 school year.

Timeline:	Information Available:
March, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Window length • Overview information about the content design for all test components in math and ELA/literacy • Estimated “time on task” for students for each assessment component • Minimum and recommended device “rule of thumb” guidance • Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool to support planning for devices, bandwidth and assessment administration
April, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft accommodations policy for students with disabilities for public comment • Draft policy for English Language Learners for public comment • Performance level descriptors for public comment • More detailed information about test blueprints, evidence statements and reporting categories for assessment components in math and ELA/literacy
June, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about field test timeline and participation guidelines • Information about the timeline, design and cost of non-summative components (diagnostic, mid-year, speaking and listening and K-2) • Information about the timeline for professional development modules
Summer, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment cost estimates • Specific information about windows for traditional and block scheduling, when assessment components will be available within the window, models of what PARCC will look like in schools, and proctor requirements • Final English Language Learners policy • Final accommodations manual for students with disabilities • Final performance level descriptors for all grades/courses in ELA/literacy and mathematics • Additional sample items
Fall, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline and plan for student registration for operational assessment • Plan for student level reporting • Anticipated timing of data return for year one • Final summative test costs



Timeline:	Information Available:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training materials for IEP writing teams based on accommodations manual • Additional information about minimum and recommended technology specifications including minimum bandwidth requirements • Technology requirements for the field test
Winter, 2013-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifications and models of what the online testing portal will look like • Final design information about the non-summative components • Final information about the field test (including administration manual) • Final information about the timeline of data return
Spring / Summer, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final information about registration timeline and process, registration site launch • Final information about how student scores will be calculated • Final test security policies • Final length of assessment components (informed by data from the field test) • Final technology specifications information
Fall, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Administration process and information (including manual)
Summer, 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student performance levels and associated cut scores • Student cut scores for career and college readiness determination