

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can we apply for fewer grades than allowed for an approval area? For instance, the Tier 1 Dyslexia Screener is for Grades K-6. Is it possible to apply and be approved for just grades K-2?

Yes, you can apply and be approved for a limited range of grades. Be certain to indicate in the fields on the Vendor Submission Tool what content and grade levels you are applying for. Also note that the reviewers may approve fewer than the requested grades if the data do not support approval for all of them.

Q. For criteria element 6.3, is a single endorsement sufficient?

Yes, a single appropriate endorsement is sufficient.

Q. If an assessment is currently approved for certain grade levels on a particular list (e.g., HQSD), and the vendor wishes to request continuation of approval for those grade levels but also to apply for additional grade levels, what process is required?

To continue an approval and add additional grade levels requires a continuation form and a full application. In some instances, there may be requirements that we will not need to review again. Please contact ApprovedAssessments@education.ohio.gov for details.

Q. The RFQ states that confidential information “must be marked as such by underlining the information and notating it with asterisks.” If there is a chart, table, graphic, or text where using the combination of asterisks and underlining of the confidential content is either not possible and/or would make the content difficult to read, is it allowable to indicate the start and end of that confidential and trade secret information with a statement preceding and following that information –such as **the following is confidential information**** prior to the content and ****conclusion of confidential information**** following it?**

Yes, marking the confidential portions of documents in the way described is acceptable.

Q. Can you elaborate on what is required for an acceptable alignment study?

Section 3.2 of the RFQ (p. 15) provides a description of the requirements for a content alignment study.

A content alignment study must be provided for many assessments and include the following:

- A description of the range of knowledge (within [Ohio’s Learning Standards](#) or to national content for the ALT HS assessments or NGSS 2013 Release for Alt 3-8 Science) to which alignment is referenced;
- A description of the methodology used to determine content alignment;
- A determination of the degree to which the assessment aligns to the cognitive demand or depth of knowledge of the specific standards;
- A statement of the percentage or degree of alignment between the assessment (and any subscores, if applicable) and the assessed range of knowledge;

- A minimum alignment of 50% is required for the K-3 Diagnostic, Alt Reading, Alt 3-8 ELA, and Math assessments.
- A minimum alignment of 80% is required for the Alt 3-8 Science assessments with inclusion of all domains.
- Alt ELA Assessments at grade 3 must demonstrate alignment with the reading subscores of Ohio's State Test; and
- Adherence to specific requirements for the particular use for which approval is being sought as described elsewhere in this RFQ.

Q. The link in the request form for continued approval (<https://forms.office.com/g/draUThCyj3>) results in a message that the form is not currently receiving responses. Is there a different form link we should use to submit vendor and product information for continued approval?

The form has been corrected. You can either download the form again and use the link on it or use this link: <https://forms.office.com/g/WKtTudRbm7>.

Q. We have applied in the past and were not approved. We are applying again this year; can you provide any feedback based on our previous application?

You can request a copy of your previous application vendor tool that includes reader feedback by emailing ApprovedAssessments@education.ohio.gov.

Q. Is a third-party independent alignment study required for criteria elements 4.3 and 4.4 for approval for K-3 Diagnostic?

Third-party independent studies are preferred but not required for K-3 Diagnostic assessments.