**2019 ACCESS for ELs and Alt-ACCESS Reports**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Why were the ACCESS and Alt-ACCESS reports pulled back?**

On 5/20/2019 NMPED was notified by multiple District Test Coordinators that the grade levels on Individual Student Reports and in the ACCESS Assessment Management System (AMS) were inaccurate by one grade. Upon investigation, it was discovered that NMPED inadvertently changed student grade levels during the data validation process. Grade levels in the file were a grade lower than actual grade levels for the students. NMPED provided the file containing the error to the scoring vendor, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) before the error was discovered.

Fortunately, districts assessed students with the correct grade level assessments so students received correct raw score and scale score results. However, the grade level scoring tables used by DRC to assign proficiency levels from the scale scores were for students one grade below. Consequently students were assigned incorrect proficiency levels. As a result, the Individual Student Reports and data delivered on 5/20/2019 must be securely destroyed to avoid providing parents and teachers inaccurate information about student English Language proficiency levels. NMPED leadership is aware of this situation.

**What is being done to correct the reports?**

NMPED staff are working to correct the grade levels in the data file. We are using quality control checks to ensure the data file submitted to the scoring contractor is as accurate as we can make it. The data file will be submitted again to the scoring contractor. The scoring contractor will assign proficiency levels to the raw scores using the correct, on-grade scoring tables. After NMPED spot checks the data, the contractor will upload the data into AMS and print and ship paper reports to schools.

**Will the proficiency levels change?**

Yes. Using scoring tables developed for students a grade lower resulted in inflated proficiency levels. The proficiency levels will likely go down for most students because they will be based on scoring tables for students in the correct grade level.

**When will the reports with correct proficiency levels arrive?**

It will take the scoring contractor at least three weeks to re-score the tests after they receive the data from NMPED. The scoring contractor will need to fit the NMPED tests into their work schedule. They will also run quality checks on the data, print and ship them. The estimated shipping date is yet to be determined. NMPED sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this causes for school and district staff.

**Whom do I contact if I have questions?**

Contact the District Test Coordinator for your district.