

FAQs: CONTINUOUS LEARNING PLAN

- 1) Can students and families pick up essential learning supplies from schools? **Yes. Families may pick up items that are essential or of significant value. Anything not essential or not of significant value should remain in place until the stay at home order is lifted. Schools can set up appointment windows with proper protocols to ensure social distancing for students to get their valuables.**
- 2) Is Pass/Fail required instead of grades for all students? **Pass/Fail is not required but *strongly recommended* to all districts and charters. Grades will be difficult to determine during this time, and given our concern for equity, we encourage all LEAs to adopt this for the last grading period. Third quarter GPAs can stand when appropriate. Local decisions to promote or retain students should continue to be based on student needs and the determination of student assistance teams and parents. Please keep equity issues in mind and make sure that your system does not unfairly disadvantage students who have limited access and who may not have the same levels of academic support at home.**
- 3) Can we use the End of Course Exams to demonstrate competency? How will they be accessed? **The PED has decided to make all high school end of course exams publically available. Blueprints, exams, and answer keys are accessible in an [EOC Google Drive folder](#). PED encourages educators to use the blueprints, which identify critical standards to be measured, to develop open-ended questions or to integrate questions as part of instruction. The PED has a one-page resource document for a variety of other local, performance-based demonstrations of competency options that do not necessitate a secure browser of secure testing.**
- 4) Will we have access to data from state assessments that were already given, including ACCESS and the NM-ASR? **LEAs will receive data from ACCESS, as the testing window was completed before the announcement of physical school closure. Spring 2020 ACCESS data can be used to determine if students have exited EL status. NM-ASR was a federally approved census field test only for Spring 2020, as New Mexico applied for a waiver in 2019 to forgo an operational science test this spring, allowing our schools more time to transition to the new STEM Ready science standards. The 2019 waiver exempts New Mexico from reporting, as field test results are not reported to schools. The purpose of the field test is to “try out” the test questions on our students to determine which questions are acceptable or appropriate for a scored operational test. Thus we would not want schools to use field test data to make instructional decisions for students. The NM-ASR will be fully operational in Spring 2021 and all schools will receive data. Since the operational test is built after review of the field test data, these results will be reliable and valid.**
- 5) Do we still need to complete the Early Childhood Observation Tool within the deadlines? **You are not required to complete the ECOT for EOY. The year will finish with MOY data.**
- 6) Does the waiver on statewide assessments include Istation? **Yes. Istation is not required for EOY testing.**

- 7) Will the PED be helping districts and charters by purchasing hotspots and devices for students? **Yes. We are currently assessing whether it is quicker for PED to purchase materials or for LEAs to purchase and then apply for reimbursement.**
- 8) What are recommended times for office hours? **We recommend teachers be available for students and families for an hour each day in addition to their allotted instructional time where they are engaged with students.**
- 9) How should districts and charters handle reimbursements for phone usage? **This is a local decision. We encourage LEAs to use free mechanisms for phone calls such as Google Voice.**
- 10) How will we register new students during the next two months? **You will use the same methods you typically use to register students, simply ensuring all paperwork can be submitted virtually using scanning capabilities and e-signatures. Please have communication prepared for students and families describing the current learning environment in your district or charter.**
- 11) What if teachers are waiting to take their assessments for their licensure? **They will receive an extension. Please contact Seana Flanagan at Seana.Flanagan@state.nm.us.**
- 12) Can you translate the Tips for Teaching Online and Tips for Learning Online in Spanish: **Yes! They will be available soon.**
- 13) Can you provide further guidance regarding FERPA and online learning? **Yes. [This PowerPoint presentation from the U.S. Department of Education](#) explains federal guidance related to FERPA and virtual learning, including multiple scenarios that might arise in your district.**
- 14) Is it okay for counselors, social workers, OT, PT, and other ancillary staff to be alone with students via remote learning platforms such as video conferencing? **Yes. They can use telephonic or televideo support.**
- 15) 16) How many high school credits are required? **Successful completion of a minimum number of twenty-four units aligned to the state academic content and performance shall be required to earn a New Mexico diploma of excellence. See Sec. 22-12-1.1 (J) NMSA 1978.**
- 16) Can local charter schools submit a Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) or do they have to follow the district CLP? **Local Charters may submit a standalone Continuous Learning Plan or follow that of their district.**