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KURT STEINHAUS, ED.D.  
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, DESIGNATE

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

August 24, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Superintendents, Charter School Administrators School Counselors, District Test Coordinators

**FROM:** Gwendolyn Perea Warniment, PhD, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning & Assessment

**RE: Cohorts 2022 and 2203 Demonstration of Competency and Pandemic Related Non-Standard Administration Waiver Request for Interim Assessments and Screeners**

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This memorandum provides information on requirements pertaining to graduation demonstration of competency for cohorts 2022 and 2023 and pandemic related non-standard administration waivers for interim assessments and screeners.

**Demonstration of Competency Allowances for Cohorts 2022 and 2023**

Due to pandemic-related interruptions to standardized testing, PED allows the continuation of the passing of required coursework to demonstrate competency for cohort 2022 and 2023 graduates, as allowed for cohort 2021.

**Pandemic-Related Non-Standard Administration Waiver Request**

All state and federally required assessments and screeners per the [Assessment-Schedule-2021-22](#) must be administered on-site at an official district location to ensure valid results. However, due to extenuating circumstances related to the pandemic, districts and charters may submit a non-standardized test administration waiver. The waiver can be located on the [DTC Resources page](#) and submitted to [ped.assessment@state.nm.us](mailto:ped.assessment@state.nm.us).

PED will host optional office hours for District Test Coordinators (DTCs) to address questions related to this memorandum on August 27, 2021, at 9:00 AM MT. Office hours registration is available [here](#).

For questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Deputy Director of Assessment, Alicia Abney, at [Alicia.Abney@state.nm.us](mailto:Alicia.Abney@state.nm.us).

cc: Kurt Steinhaus, PhD., Secretary of Education  
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