



Revised September 11, 2023

Local Education Agencies are to use the following guidelines for federally required ESSA summative assessments as designated on the annual state assessment calendar.

Required Test Assignments Exclusive to Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities

- Students whose Individualized Education Program teams have determined the alternate assessment is the appropriate placement take the DLM test in lieu of MSSA (grades 3-8), ASR (grades 5, 8 & 11), and SAT School Day (grade 11). Therefore, no MSSA, ASR or SAT School Day test records should appear for these students, as DLM is the alternate assessment for this population for all tested grades and content areas.
- English learners whose IEP teams have determined the alternate assessment of English language proficiency is appropriate will take the Alternate ACCESS assessment starting with the grade in which identified (alt-ACCESS available for Grades 1-12) and until they achieve an overall composite score of P1 or higher.
- Any cohort graduate who did not complete the DLM during the previous spring summative testing window is strongly encouraged to test during the current spring summative window.

Required Test Assignments for General Education Students With or Without IEPs, Identified ELs, and Excluding Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities

English Learners

- Only students identified as English learners by the WIDA screening assessments will take the ACCESS for ELLs English language proficiency assessment until they achieve an overall composite score of 4.7.
 - ELs enrolled in a U.S. school for less than a full academic year may be exempted from taking the ELA assessment during their first year in a U.S. school. They will take math, science, and ELP assessments.
 - ELs enrolled in a U.S. school for less than three consecutive academic years may take the science, math, and language arts assessments in the home language of Spanish, where those assessments are available.
 - ELs enrolled in a U.S. school for three but less than 5 consecutive years may apply for a waiver to assess in the home language of Spanish.
 - ELs enrolled in a U.S. school for five or more consecutive academic years must take all assessments in English.
- English learners whose IEP teams have determined the alternate assessment of English language proficiency is appropriate will take the Alternate ACCESS assessment starting with the grade in which identified (alt-ACCESS available for Grades 1-12) and until they achieve an overall composite score of P1 or higher.

Students in Grades 3-8

- Students in Grades 3-8 must take their grade-level New Mexico Measures of Student Success and Achievement test in ELA and math. This includes students enrolled in advanced math classes (e.g., 8th grade Algebra)
- Students in Grades 5 and 8 will take the NM-ASR for their grade level.

High School Students*

- Students enrolled in Grade 11 participate in the SAT School Day.
 - Qualifying ELs may participate in Spanish Reading SBA in lieu of SAT Reading, but will not receive a college reportable score, per College Board policy. ELs may elect to participate in SAT Reading & Writing in order to have a college reportable score.
- Students enrolled in Grade 11 participate in the New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness.
- Students enrolled in Grade 11 whose IEP dictates an alternative assessment will participate in the DLM in ELA, math, and science.
- Any cohort graduate who did not complete the SAT School Day or ASR during the previous spring summative testing window is strongly encouraged to test during the current spring summative window.

***Off-Grade Level Testing Waivers for High School SAT School Day and ASR**

All assessments are assigned by grade level enrolled. To ensure correct ESSA participation calculations, LEAs are not permitted to administer a test above or below their grade level without a PED approved waiver. To seek a PED waiver, please send an email to ped.assessment@ped.nm.gov with "Seeking Off-grade Testing Permission" in the subject line.

***Per state rule and federal testing requirements, all 2025 cohort graduates are required to participate in all Title I, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) assessment programs for which they are eligible in order to graduate.**