



## Important Statewide Testing Information - Updates April 2, 2020

---

### Statewide Assessments: Federal Waiver Approved

Due to the extraordinary circumstances and extended school closures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Arizona Department of Education, with approval from the State Board of Education, submitted a request to the U.S. Department of Education to waive certain assessment, accountability, school identification for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), and report card requirements for the 2019-2020 school year for the State of Arizona. The U.S. Department of Education has completed an initial review of Arizona's request and has stated that it appears to meet all statutory requirements and that Arizona may now begin to implement the waivers while the formal approval is being processed.

The following requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 are included in this approved waiver request for the 2019-2020 school year:

- The requirements to administer all required assessments
- Accountability and school identification requirements (CSI & TSI)
- Report card provisions related to certain assessments and accountability

### Public Comment

In order to meet the requirements of submitting a waiver, ADE will be opening a Public Comment based on ADE's waiver submission.

Public Comment will be open **April 2 - April 24, 2020**. Please read the documents included below, "One-Year Waiver Request Document" and "Superintendent Hoffman's Letter to USDOE", and then submit any comments using this link:

<http://www.azed.gov/assessment/2020-waiver/>. Please feel free to share this link with others.

One-Year Waiver Request Document

Superintendent Hoffman's Letter to USDOE

Submit Public Comments

---

### Statewide Assessment Updates

#### **AzM2:**

If you received materials from Measurement Incorporated (MI), please open the boxes and inventory what you received.

- If you only received Test Administration Directions and Test Coordinator's Manuals, please dispose of them at your site. These are not secure materials.
- We will have further guidance regarding returning secure test materials soon.

#### **AIMS Science:**

If you ordered and received Test Administration Directions and Test Coordinator's Manuals, please dispose of them at your site. These are not secure materials. If you received Special Paper Version (SPV) test booklets, including Large Print, Braille, and/or regular print paper test booklets for AIMS Science, these are secure materials and should be returned to

Pearson by May 1, 2020. Instructions for packaging and sending SPV materials begin on page 13 of the [Test Coordinator's Manual](#).

**AZELLA:**

The AZELLA Reassessment has not been cancelled. There was some confusion regarding the State Board's Summary and ADE's Guidance. Nearly 85,000 online and paper-and-pencil tests were completed for AZELLA Reassessment. ADE will proceed with scoring those online tests submitted and paper-and-pencil tests that are shipped to Pearson. Please refer to the Assessment Update dated March 24, 2020 for additional guidance for returning AZELLA Reassessment Materials.

Eligible students should be administered an AZELLA Placement test within two weeks of enrollment. If your LEA cannot administer a Placement test in the required secure testing environment due to extended school closures, the LEA should err on the side of services and provide whatever supports are available to ensure the student is successful. A placement test should be administered at the earliest possible date. If you have questions regarding the eligibility of a newly enrolled student for an AZELLA Placement test, please contact the AZELLA Inbox at [azella@azed.gov](mailto:azella@azed.gov).

The AZELLA Art Contest has been postponed until Fall 2020. Any artwork with parent consent form that has already been submitted will be held and included in the art contest in the fall. More details will be sent as they become available.

**MSAA:**

Test Coordinators must securely destroy any printed DTAs or paper tests as well as Braille cards if they were shipped to your district. Downloads must be permanently deleted. TAMs are not secure materials and may be recycled.

**Menu of Assessments (ACT):**

ADE and the State Board are continuing to work with ACT regarding options for an ACT test opportunity for Cohort 2021 students who were scheduled to participate in Menu of Assessments in the 2019-2020 school year.

As a reminder, any test materials already received for Spring 2020 testing cannot be used for a future ACT test opportunity and must be returned to ACT. Please return secure materials by May 1, 2020.

[DTC Website](#)