Things You Need to Know as a New District Test Coordinator
10/16 Webinar Chat Questions

Achievement Assessments

1. Is the State paying for the new tests or does the district carry the burden of paying for these assessments? *Yes, all statewide assessments are covered by the State.*

2. Does the ACT have a Science portion that we will be administering next year? *Yes, there is a Science component as part of the ACT assessment that will be part of Arizona's new statewide high school assessment.* If so, will we need to administer both ACT and AzSCI in high school? *Yes, schools will be administering both the ACT (with a science component) and AzSCI to students in Grade 11 (Cohort 2023). AzSCI is aligned to the new Science Standards adopted in 2018.*

3. Will there be guidance from ADE for remote learners taking the Spring assessments, including AzM2, AzSCI, and Menu of Assessments (ACT and SAT)? *ADE is planning for an in-person test administration. Currently, ADE does not offer any test exemptions. Schools will need to work with their families to communicate the requirement to test all students.*

4. What happens if we cannot get 95% participation? *This is an issue that ADE is aware of, and ADE acknowledges there will be challenges to meet this requirement. ADE is having conversations to address this concern across the agency, with the State Board of Education, and nationally.*

Alternate Assessments

5. Are MSAA distant learners required to attend in person for assessments? *Yes, MSAA is an assessment that must be administered one on one (student and test administrator). ADE understands and is working on specific guidance to address this challenge.*

AZELLA

6. We have many students who have opted for distant learning and we haven't been able to test them yet. How do we proceed with virtual students? *ADE has provided guidance on temporary entrance procedures in order to provide EL services without administering an AZELLA Placement Assessment. ADE guidance also includes the LEA must administer the assessment as soon as practicable.*

7. If parents/guardians are not comfortable bringing their students in to test due to COVID-19, how should we proceed? We share our procedures for sanitizing the testing area and attempt to reassure them, but if the family refuses, what do we do? How should we document attempts to accommodate families and respect their concerns around testing while dealing with COVID-19 if we are ultimately unable to test a student? *Schools are able to utilize the temporary entrance procedures to ensure EL services are provided to eligible students. Schools have created and shared procedures for test administration with families. (ADE can review- there is some secure information that **cannot** be shared beyond the test administrators). ADE understands there are new challenges and encourages schools to continue to reach out and communicate this requirement. ADE recommends the LEA documents anytime they have contacted families regarding testing.*

8. When will the Reassessment training modules open? *The Reassessment modules will be available on January 18, 2021.*

9. How often is TestNav supposed to be updated by users? We started testing a few weeks ago and now it is asking for an update, which has interrupted our testing. *The current version of the student TestNav app is 8.15.499; this number is in the lower right of the TestNav login screen. There are two sources of updates:*

    1) *App updates*
        Usually the only type of update that would catch people's attention is the app update (the annual summer app release). Typically, this update is only once a year, but there can be exceptions like this year when we had to release an iOS app update in mid-August.

        Depending on which version of the app the school is using, even this is an auto-update that doesn't require manual intervention. On Windows, the update is an auto-update if the school is using Windows 10 and they installed it from the Windows 10 store -- so encouraging Windows 10 users to install it from there can reduce the app upgrade hassle.

        For anyone using an app that doesn't auto-update, this can cause issues on the day of testing at any time of year if they never updated the device since the app was released.

    2) *TestNav updates*
        TestNav release upgrades and patches don't require user intervention unless the testing device was on during the update. If the device is at the login screen (and has been since a prior version of TestNav was active on the site) and the user tries to log into a test, TestNav realizes it's getting a login request from an outdated client and a message is displayed asking the user to restart the app.

The solution for TestNav updates is to close the app when testing is done for the day, so that it will load the current version of TestNav without error the next time it is launched.
If an LEA continues to have issues, please contact ADE at Testing@azed.gov.

10. Would it be advisable for students to take the Reassessment and the Stand-Alone Field Test on the same day, back-to-back? *No, it is not possible or recommended to administer these assessments on the same day. As indicated in the TADs, a significant break (approximately 30 minutes) should be provided between test units.*

11. Is there an estimated time for how long the Stand-Alone Field Test is expected to take? How long will it take compared to the standard Reassessment? *The Stand-Alone Field Test (SAFT) is estimated to take about 90 minutes and 120 minutes, depending on the grade. The SAFT will be considerably shorter than the standard Reassessment. The 2021 Spring Reassessment will also be shortened as the embedded field test items have been removed.*

12. Is Mid-Year Placement testing required for qualifying students? *Mid-Year testing is not required. For school year 2020-2021, Mid-Year Placement testing is only available for high school students.*

General Questions

13. Can test security agreements be signed electronically? *Yes, ADE is accepting electronic signatures.*

14. How do I sign up to receive *The Examiner* newsletter? *The Examiner Newsletter is distributed quarterly (August, November, February and May) to all District Test Coordinators. It is also posted on the ADE Assessment page:* https://www.azed.gov/assessment/examiner.

15. How do I view this recorded webinar? If I attended the live event, how do I obtain a professional development certificate?
The recorded webinar and the PowerPoint slides are posted on the Assessment section website at https://www.azed.gov/assessment under the "Friday Focus Webinars" dropdown. If you attended the live webinar, you can access your certificate through your account in the Event Management System, where you registered for this event.