AzM2 Questions

1. Which grade levels take the AzM2 assessment this year? Students in Grades 3-8 and cohort 2023 (generally Grade 10) will take the AzM2 assessment in both ELA and Mathematics.

2. How many test sessions are in the AzM2 assessment and what is the suggested time for each session? The Math test has two sessions at each grade level, and the suggested time is 60-85 minutes per test session. The ELA test has two Reading sessions, with suggested time of 45-75 minutes each, and one Writing session, with suggested time of 60-90 minutes.

3. Can we have two testing sessions in one day; for example, one in the morning and one in the afternoon? If we are planning to do two AzM2 sessions in one day, is there a recommended minimum break time in between the two sessions? You may administer two sessions in a day, with a significant break of 30 or more minutes between sessions. Writing should be administered on a separate test day.

4. For AzM2 ELA, can all three test sessions be administered on the same day? This year, due to the unique circumstances, three sessions may be administered on the same day with a significant break between each session. Writing should be administered on a separate test day.

5. Do online students have to come to campus to take the assessments at the same time as their on-campus peers? No, they do not. We do ask that you schedule the same grade level students close - possibly online students in the afternoon and all other students in the morning or the next day to maintain test security.

6. Previously, testing could only be completed during school hours. Does this apply again for this year? Due to distance learning, are schools able to offer testing later in the day? ADE is going to be as flexible as possible. We ask that you submit the “outside regular hours" schedule for approval ahead of time and include number of students, test administrator(s), and location (i.e. computer lab).

7. We are a PBT school. If we are administering Math Part 1 on a certain day, would we have to bring all of our 4th Grade online students in to take the assessment at the same time as their on-campus peers? Or could they come in during a different part of the day? See question 5.

8. If a school’s board decides to keep students online during the testing window, do we still need to bring in as many students to take the standardized tests? Yes, all students are required to participate in statewide assessments.
9. When will AzM2 scores be available? AzM2 score reports will be available as follows:

| Grade 3 reports will be available in ORS for districts/charters. | May 14, 2021 |
| Grade 3 paper reports will be delivered to districts/charters. | May 27, 2021 |
| Grades 4 – 8 reports will be available in ORS for districts/charters. | June 8, 2021 |
| Grade 10 reports will be available in ORS for districts/charters. | June 18, 2021 |
| Grades 4 – 8 and Grade 10 paper reports will be delivered to districts/charters. | July 23, 2021 |

10. Will students’ individual score reports tell them their Level? Yes, for all grades and content area, a performance level will be indicated. For Grade 10 Math, only the performance level will be indicated. Please see slide 9 to see sample report.

11. Did you say that the scaling score will be the Geometry end of course test? Yes, the established Geometry scale will be used for this Grade 10 math test. This scale was developed based on the Geometry End of Course assessment from prior years as it was administered to grade 10 students. If you have more detailed questions, please contact Anju Kuriakose, Director of Psychometrics, at Anju.Kuriakose@azed.gov.

Accountability Questions

12. Will the scores impact school grades for 2021? As it stands right now, State and Federal Accountability are in place. A change to Statewide Accountability (A-F) requires legislative action. Currently there are two bills (HB2402 and SB1178) in the legislature that address Statewide Accountability change.

13. When will we know if our letter grade will be impacted for next year with the spring 2021 test results? We do not currently have a timeline.

14. We are concerned about being able to obtain 95% of students tested as many parents do not want students in online learning to come to the building to test. We understand this concern. However, at this time, all public schools are held to the Assessment and Accountability requirements. We ask that all LEAs communicate their plans for testing and document this outreach to parents. Guidance documents for each assessment program and a “Creative Solutions for Test Administration” document have been created to assist LEAs. These documents can be found on the District Test Coordinator page of our website: https://www.azed.gov/assessment/dtc.

15. Is there any negative impact on a district adhering to public health orders from the Navajo Nation that may create an assessment process that doesn’t exactly follow state directives? At this time, all public schools are held to the same Assessment and Accountability requirements. ADE has communicated to all LEAs that schools should proceed with testing when it is safe. If you have a Stay-at-Home Order because you are on tribal lands, we understand and do not expect you to open schools just for testing while a Stay-at-Home Order is in place. We do expect you to communicate with parents/families the importance of testing and to administer statewide assessments to students once you can do so safely.
16. Would a “pause” on the Letter Grade also need to be approved by the USDOE? *Letter grades are a state requirement. We would need to also submit for a waiver from Federal Accountability requirements.*

17. If USDOE allows for states to apply for a testing waiver, will ADE plan to apply? *We do not know at this time. We are watching and seeing what to gather for our state at this time.*

18. Will the AzSCI Field Test also have the 95% testing requirement? *Yes. ADE does not have a waiver from State or Federal Accountability requirements.*

19. If we are participating in ACT in spring 2021, does that 95% participation threshold apply for this year? *Yes, at this time it does. ADE does not have a waiver from State or Federal Accountability requirements.*

20. Do the schools get to decide how it will affect student grades? *Yes, this is a local decision. Some LEAs choose (this is not required) to use student performance on Statewide Assessments as part of the student’s class/semester grade.*

**AzSCI Questions**

21. Has cancelling the AzSCI Field Test been considered? *It has been considered; however, this is not an option because we are required to administer a Science assessment. Arizona has received a waiver and is allowed to administer the AzSCI Field Test in place of AIMS and AIMS A Science.*

22. Which students take the AzSCI Field Test? *Students in Grades 5, 8, and Cohort 2022 (generally Grade 11) will take the AzSCI Field Test.*

23. How many test questions are on the AzSCI Field Test at each grade level? *There are two test sections with a total of 22 questions on the AzSCI Field Test at each grade level.*

**Assessment 2021-2022 Questions**

24. What assessments will be administered for ELA and Math in 2021-2022? *In 2021-2022, students in Grades 3-8 will be administered AASA, Arizona’s Academic Standards Assessment, in ELA and Math. Students in Grade 9 will take ACT Aspire and students in Grade 11 will take ACT.*

25. Will ACT Aspire scores for 9th grade students contribute to 2022 letter grade calculations? *There has been no determination at this time how ACT Aspire 9th grade scores will play in state accountability in the 2021-2022 school year. The various Technical Advisory Groups teams will be working on that in future meetings and will need to take into consideration that not all schools will be testing.*

26. Does ACT have the same 95% completion standard? *Yes, all Statewide Assessments have this participation requirement.*
27. Will passing the ACT be a graduation requirement? No, we have not had our statewide assessments as part of graduation requirements for several years now.

28. Will grade 11 be tested in Science in both ACT and AzSCI next year? Yes, the ACT content is not aligned to the new Arizona Science Standards.

29. Who is the vendor for AASA? The vendor for AASA is Pearson.

Webinar Logistics

30. 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.

31. Will there be additional webinars? Yes, one additional webinar has been scheduled in the Friday Focus webinar series. More information is available in the Friday Focus webinar series flyer.

32. Where can I find recordings from the past webinars? Recordings, PowerPoint presentations, and FAQ documents for past Friday Focus webinar sessions are posted on our website: https://www.azed.gov/assessment, under the “Friday Focus Webinars” dropdown.