



**Assessments Updates:
ESS Special Education Director's Check In
August 19, 2021**

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Arizona Department of Education**

Welcome and Overview

- **What to expect this year for testing**
- **Assessment Updates**
 - Assessment Overview 2021 and Beyond
 - Infographics for Assessment Programs
- **AZELLA Domain Scoring**
- **Resources**

Where we are today

- **Arizona's Board of Education – 5 Year Assessment Plan**
 - State Board of Education determined that College Board could not be an option on the Menu of Assessments due to their decision to no longer offer the writing essay
- **Will transition to new assessments this school year**
 - AASA (Grades 3 - 8)
 - ACT Aspire (Grade 9)
 - ACT (Grade 11)
 - AzSCI (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
 - MSAA (Grades 3 - 8, and 11) and MSAA Science (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
- **Stand-Alone Field Tests (All Students must participate)!**
 - AZELLA
 - AASA Writing
- **Participating in development of Alternate ELP Assessment**
 - CAAELP

Exciting News AASA's Logo



What is on the Horizon . . .

Includes:

- Assessments and Requirements
- Accountability

Assessment Overview document:

<https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2021/07/Assessments%20Overview%20-%202021%20and%20Beyond.pdf>

Achievement Assessments	Test Window	Grade Level(s) Tested
Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)*/^/**	Computer-Based Test Window: April 4 – 29, 2022 (Writing must be completed by April 15, 2022) Paper-Based Test Window: April 4 – 13, 2022 (Writing must be scheduled for April 4 or 5, 2022)	Grades 3-8
AASA Writing Stand-Alone Field Test	January 24 – February 18, 2022	Grades 3-8
ACT Aspire (See note at bottom of page)	Computer-Based Test Window: April 4 – 29, 2022 Paper-Based Test Window: April 4 – 13, 2022	Grade 9 (Cohort 2025)
ACT*/^^	Districts/charters will need to select one of the test windows below and complete all ACT testing within that window. <i>Test Window 1:</i> Standard Paper Testing: March 1, 2022 Accommodations Paper Testing: March 1-4 & 7-11, 2022 Online Testing (Standard and Accommodations): March 1-3 & March 8-10, 2022 <i>Test Window 2:</i> Standard Paper Testing: April 5, 2022 Accommodations Paper Testing: April 5-8 & 11-15, 2022 Online Testing (Standard and Accommodations): April 5-7 & April 12-14, 2022	Grade 11 (Cohort 2023)
AzSci****	Computer-Based Test Window: March 21 – April 15, 2022	Grades 5, 8, and 11 (Cohort 2023)
English Language Proficiency Assessment	Test Window	Additional Information
AZELLA Placement**/**	Two weeks before the start of school (provided all pre-testing requirements have been met by the DTC and AZELLA staff) through May 13, 2022	KPT & Stages II-V Assessment Aligned to the 2010 ELP Standards
AZELLA Fall 2021 Stand-Alone Field Test	October 11 – December 10, 2021	Postponed from Spring 2021 New Design aligned to the 2019 ELP Standards Administered to all Arizona ELs in grades: 1, 2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, and 10-12
AZELLA Spring 2022 Reassessment**/**	January 31 – March 18, 2022	Stages I – V Reassessment Aligned to the 2010 ELP Standards
Alternate Assessment	Test Window	Grade Level(s) Tested
MSAA ELA and Mathematics*/^^	Mid-March through late April (Exact dates to be determined) Training window will open early March	Grades 3-8 and 11
MSAA Science****	Mid-March through late April (Exact dates to be determined) Training window will open early March	Grades 5, 8, and 11
National Assessment	Test Window	Grade Level(s) Tested
NAEP	Reading and Math January 24 – March 4, 2022	Grades 4 and 8 (Selected schools will be notified)
NAEP Long-term Trend	Reading and Math January 10 – March 18, 2022	Age 9 (Selected schools will be notified)

*Used in Federal Accountability – Participation (95% Tested) and Proficiency
 ^Used in Federal Accountability – Growth (K-8)
 **Used in Federal Accountability – Proficiency/Growth
 ****Used in State Accountability – Participation/Proficiency/Growth
 ^^Used in State Accountability – Participation and Proficiency
 *****Used in State Accountability – CCRI or other

NOTE: The asterisk distinctions are subject to change based on State Board determinations regarding the State Accountability System. The role of ACT Aspire has not been fully determined for state accountability at this time.

Assessment Overview 2022-2023 School Year



Assessments

Arizona Department of Education
Assessment Section

Assessments Overview – 2022-2023 School Year and Beyond

(Test Windows To Be Determined)

Achievement Assessments	Grade Level(s) Tested
Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)*/^/****	Grades 3-8
ACT Aspire (See note at bottom of page)	Grade 9 (Cohort 2026)
ACT*/^^	Grade 11 (Cohort 2024)
AzSCI****	Grades 5, 8, and 11 (Cohort 2024)
English Language Proficiency Assessment	Stages
AZELLA Placement**/****	KPT & Stages II – V Assessment Aligned to the 2019 ELP Standards
AZELLA Spring 2023 Reassessment**/****	Stages I – V Reassessment Aligned to the 2019 ELP Standards
Alternate Assessment	Grade Level(s) Tested
MSAA ELA and Mathematics*/^^	Grades 3-8 and 11
MSAA Science****	Grades 5, 8, and 11
National Assessment	Grade Level(s) Tested
NAEP	To Be Determined

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***Used in State Accountability – Participation /Proficiency/Growth

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NOTE: The asterisk distinctions are subject to change based on State Board determinations regarding the State Accountability System
The role of ACT Aspire has not been fully determined for state accountability at this time.

Statewide Achievement Assessments Infographic

2021-2022 Statewide Achievement Assessments

Test Windows

AASA (Grades 3 – 8)

Computer-Based: April 4 – 29

*Complete Writing by April 15

Paper-Based: April 4 – 13

*Schedule Writing for April 4-5

AzSCI (Grades 5, 8, and Cohort 2023/Grade 11)

March 21 – April 15

ACT Aspire (Cohort 2025/Grade 9)

Online: April 4 – April 29

Paper: April 4 – April 13

ACT (Cohort 2023/Grade 11)

Paper: March 1 or April 5

Online: March 1-3 & March 8-10 or

Online: April 5-7 & April 12-14

AASA (Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment)

- ✓ ELA and Mathematics
- ✓ Calculator: Desmos
- ✓ AZ-specific items used on AzM2 will be used on AASA.
- ✓ Sample tests will be available in Fall 2021.
- ✓ Writing prompt and edit tasks will be field tested in a Stand-Alone Field Test, **January 24 – February 18, 2022**. All schools (Grades 3-8) will participate.
- ✓ Grade 3 will have new items for Oral Reading Fluency. This will be administered in small groups.

ACT and ACT Aspire

- ✓ ADE will be working with vendor to develop resources and tools (crosswalks).
- ✓ Assessments will be available online and paper-based.
- ✓ ACT content areas include English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. The Writing portion of the assessment is an essay.
- ✓ ACT Aspire content areas include English, Math, Reading, and Science. There are language and editing tasks and open-ended questions included.
- ✓ Resources will be posted on our Educator Resources webpage as they become available: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/resources>.
- ✓ LEAs do not need to sign up for these assessments – all schools will participate.
- ✓ ADE will pay the vendor directly for these assessments as for other statewide assessments. There will be no invoicing or reimbursement process needed for districts for these assessments.

AzSCI

- ✓ Spring 2022 – First operational year
- ✓ LEAs, schools, and students will receive data
- ✓ Online assessment
- ✓ Grades 5, 8, and 11 (Cohort 2023)

Contact us: AASA@azed.gov or AzSCI@azed.gov

Technology requirements:

<https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/TestNav+System+Requirements>



AASA's Infographic

2021-2022 Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)

AASA – Writing Stand-Alone Field Test

January 24 – February 18, 2022

Test Windows

AASA – Operational Test

Computer-Based: April 4 – 29, 2022 (Complete Writing by April 15)

Paper-Based: April 4 – 13, 2022 (Schedule Writing for April 4 or 5)

Overview

- ✓ ELA and Mathematics, Grades 3-8
- ✓ Tests will be administered online by default. The window for LEAs to sign up for paper-based testing will be in Fall 2021.
- ✓ AZ-specific items used on AzM2 will be used on AASA.
- ✓ Writing prompt and edit tasks will be field tested in a Stand-Alone Field Test, **January 24-February 18, 2022**. All schools (Grades 3-8) will participate.
- ✓ Grade 3 will have new items for Oral Reading Fluency. This will be administered in small groups.
- ✓ Sample Tests will be available in Fall 2021.

ELA

- ✓ Assessments will contain a writing portion, editing tasks, and paired reading passages.

Math

- ✓ Desmos Calculator - Calculator is permitted on Grades 7 and 8 Math Part 1 only.

Accessibility

- ✓ Arizona Accommodation Manual (revisions coming soon): <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/accessibility>
- ✓ Special Paper Version (SPV) tests are available in Braille, large print, and regular print paper tests
- ✓ Submit SPV test requests to ADE August 30, 2021 – February 25, 2022
- ✓ More information regarding SPV test process coming Fall 2021

Resources

- ✓ AASA Website: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/aasa>
- ✓ Contact us: AASA@azed.gov
- ✓ Sample tests, blueprints, and additional resources coming Fall 2021

Statewide High School Assessments Infographic

2021-2022 Statewide High School Assessments

ACT Aspire

Online: April 4 – April 29
Paper: April 4 – April 13

Test Windows

ACT

Paper: March 1 or April 5
Online: March 1-3 & March 8-10 or
Online: April 5-7 & April 12-14

AzSCI

March 21 – April 15

ACT Aspire - Grade 9 (Cohort 2025)

- ✓ ADE will be working with vendor to develop resources and tools (crosswalks).
- ✓ Assessment will be available online and paper-based.
- ✓ Content areas include English, Math, Reading, and Science. There are language and editing tasks and open-ended questions included.
- ✓ ACT Aspire Grade 9 Summative Assessment will be administered and will be the Grade 9 assessment through the life of the contract.
- ✓ Accommodations / Special Paper Version test requests will be submitted to ADE for review and approval.
- ✓ ACT Aspire Tech Requirements: <https://success.act.org/s/article/https-support-assessment-pearson-com-display-TN-TestNav-System-Requirements>
- ✓ ACT Aspire Exemplars: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/act-aspire/about-act-aspire/exemplar-items.html>

ACT - Grade 11 (Cohort 2023)

- ✓ ADE will be working with vendor to develop resources and tools (crosswalks).
- ✓ Assessment will be available online and paper based. Schools will select a test window and online or paper test administration in PAN in Fall 2021.
- ✓ Content areas include English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. The Writing portion of the assessment is an essay.
- ✓ This assessment is the high school requirement for ELA and Mathematics. Students must also take AzSCI for their high school Science requirement.
- ✓ DTCs will attend Arizona-specific webinars in Fall 2021 for test administration information and accommodations information.
- ✓ LEAs must submit requests for accommodations in ACT's Test Accessibility & Accommodations (TAA) System – opens September 15. **Submit requests early!**
- ✓ ACT Tech Requirements: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/state-and-district-solutions/act-online-testing.html> * **iPads are not supported at this time.**
- ✓ ACT AZ-Specific website: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/state-and-district-solutions/arizona/the-act.html>

AzSCI - Grade 11 (Cohort 2023)

- ✓ Spring 2022 – First operational year
- ✓ Online assessment
- ✓ Assessing standards in physical science, earth science, and life science for high school

Contact us: For ACT and ACT Aspire - Testing@azed.gov or for AzSCI - AzSCI@azed.gov



AZELLA Infographic

2021-2022 AZELLA

AZELLA 2021-2022 Placement

Two weeks before the start of school through May 13, 2022

Test Windows

AZELLA Spring 2022 Reassessment

January 31 – March 18, 2022

AZELLA Stand-Alone Field Test

October 11 – December 10, 2021

New AZELLA First Operational Administration Spring 2023 Reassessment

- ✓ Aligned to new ELP Standards
- ✓ New grade configuration (Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5, Grades 6-8, and Grades 9-12)
- ✓ Will focus on productive, receptive, and interactive language from the ELP Standards
- ✓ Will no longer have domain-specific sections (L,R,W, and S)
- ✓ Will have units; may have thematic sets of Reading and Writing items or Listening and Speaking items in one unit
- ✓ New Sample Tests will be available in late Spring 2022

Coming Soon – NEW Alternate ELP Assessment

- ✓ For students with significant cognitive disabilities
- ✓ CAAELP Website: <https://altelpa.org>
- ✓ Item Try-outs/Pilot – Fall 2022
- ✓ Field Test / Operational – Spring 2023

Accessibility

- ✓ Requests for Additional Accommodations / Special Paper Version tests must be submitted to ADE for review and approval by **August 30, 2021**
- ✓ ADE's review and approval for Additional Accommodations/SPV are required before AZELLA can be administered
- ✓ Transition to Braille versions for AZELLA Stages III - V – Contact ADE
- ✓ Domain Scoring (for eligible students only) – Contact ADE

Entrance and Exit Criteria

- ✓ Entrance: Home Language Survey (upon first AZ enrollment, beginning Kindergarten) determines eligibility for AZELLA Placement Test
- ✓ Exit: Proficiency on AZELLA – Overall Proficiency Level of Proficient (Proficient score in Reading, Writing, **and** Total Combined)

Contact / Important Links

- ✓ AZELLA Inbox: AZELLA@azed.gov
- ✓ PearsonAccess^{next}: <https://az.pearsonaccessnext.com/customer/index.action>
- ✓ Sample Tests: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/AZELLA/>
- Committees Applications:
 - ✓ [Assessment Section Committee Application](#)
 - ✓ [Parent/Community Assessment Review Application](#)

Alternate Assessment Infographic

2021-2022 Alternate Assessments

Test Window

ELA, Math, and Science: March 14 – April 29, 2022

MSAA (Multi-State Alternate Assessment)

- ✓ ELA, Mathematics, and Science
- ✓ Administered individually or one-on-one
- ✓ For students with significant cognitive disabilities
- ✓ Writing prompt
- ✓ Student Selector Application to register students for MSAA: October 1 - November 30, 2021
- ✓ Monitoring for the 1% Threshold (if over 1% participation in Alternate Assessment) begins October 1
- ✓ Training for test administrators and test coordinators starts February 28

Resources

- ✓ Reporting Portal for Spring 2021 administration open through September 24: www.msaaassessment.org
- ✓ [Eligibility criteria](#) – updated July 2021. This form must be used for all current IEPs
- ✓ Administration information: www.msaaassessment.org (will open February 28)
- ✓ Instructional supports are available on the [ADE Alternate Assessment website](#) and [Project TIES website](#)
- ✓ [Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator Handbook](#) – provides activities, dates, and instructions
- ✓ [MSAA sample items, best practice videos, and writing prompt rubrics](#)

CAAELP (Collaborative of Alternate Assessment for English Language Proficiency)

- ✓ Website: <https://altelpa.org>
- ✓ Operational test: Spring 2023
- ✓ State Community of Practice
- ✓ Item Try-outs / Pilot – Fall 2022
- ✓ Field Test / Operational – Spring 2023

Contact us: AlternateAssessment@azed.gov



Additional Assessment Updates

- **ADE has shipped results for Statewide Assessments from Spring 2021 test administration to LEAs**
- **Accountability is working with State Board to produce a report from Spring 2021**
- **ADE Assessments Team will have 6 more webinar sessions in this series for the 2021-2022 school year**

[Friday Focus Webinar Flyer](#) (includes registration information)

AZELLA Domain Scoring

Communication to DTCs,
EL Coordinators and
Special Education
Directors and is posted on
the ADE Assessment's
Webpage: AZELLA DTCs

**AZELLA Domain Scoring Letter to
Stakeholders:**

<https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2021/07/AZELLA%20Domain%20Scoring%20July%202021.pdf>



Arizona Department of Education

Assessment Section
Exceptional Student Service Section
Office of English Language Acquisition Services Section

AZELLA Reassessment - Domain Scoring

Background

The exiting criteria for English Learners must be the same for all students. See [January 2015 letter](#) from U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice.

For Arizona, the exit criteria is to obtain an Overall Proficiency Level of Proficient on the AZELLA.* In 2019, ADE notified the field that EL Services exit (code 07), *Withdrawal due to Sped Criteria*, would no longer be an option for exiting students from EL services.

Additionally, states are allowed to utilize Domain Scoring in the very rare instances in which students with a disability are not able to access one or more domains (i.e., Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking) even with allowable accommodations. Students must participate in at least one domain. See letter from United States Department of Education, [Update on English Language Proficiency Assessments](#).

Examples of instances in which students are not able to participate or access a domain are: student is fully/completely/profoundly deaf or blind, student is mute, or student does not have any observable communication.

At this time, AZELLA is our State's only English Language Proficiency assessment. Students with significant cognitive disabilities will continue to participate in this assessment.

Looking Forward

ADE has been working with its Assessment Technical Advisory Committee (TAC- National Experts) and researching how other states are utilizing the Domain Scoring option. ADE has also been collaborating internally with the OELAS and Exceptional Student Services Units to develop guidelines, processes, and procedures. Utilizing the Domain Scoring option must ensure that students are able to demonstrate proficiency in the domain or domains in which they are able to participate and ultimately no longer in need of English Learner services. Domain Scoring is not intended for students who can access the assessment but may not demonstrate proficiency.

With the postponement of the AZELLA Stand-Alone Field Test, and a pause on A-F Letter grades for the 2020-2021 school year, ADE has been working to determine when the implementation of Domain Scoring would begin. Initially, Domain Scoring was set to begin with the new AZELLA assessment

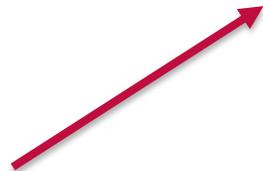
Kathy Hoffman, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Assessment Webinar Series - Posted

All Assessment Webinars will be posted on the ADE Website - Assessment Page:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- Recording



The screenshot shows the Arizona Department of Education website's Assessment page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the department's logo and name, a search icon, and links for COVID-19, Students & Families, Educators, Administrators, Programs & Supports, About ADE, and ADEConnect. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: Home / Assessments / Welcome to Assessments. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Assessments' section with a paragraph explaining the Assessment Section's role. This is followed by an 'Updates for Statewide Testing' section with a list of links, including 'Assessments Overview - 2021 and Beyond - updated 7-30-2021' and 'Infographics for 2021-2022 Statewide Achievement Assessments - 7-30-21'. Below the updates are four blue buttons with white text: 'Previous Updates', 'ESSA State Plan Revision Webinar - Academic Standards and Assessments - April 2, 2021', 'Friday Focus Webinars 2021-2022', and 'Friday Focus Webinars 2020-2021'. A 'State Assessments' section follows, containing a table with four columns: 'ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENTS', 'ALTERNATE ASSESSMENTS', 'AZELLA', and 'NAEP'. At the bottom, a blue box contains the URL <https://www.azed.gov/assessment>. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with sections for 'Accessibility', 'Assessments' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Assessments Conference', 'District Test Coordinators' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Educator Resources', 'Parents and Students', 'Technical and Legal Resources', 'Contact', 'Testing Inbox' (with phone number (602) 542-5031 and email testing@azed.gov), 'AASA Inbox' (with email AASA@azed.gov), 'AZELLA Inbox' (with email azella@azed.gov), 'AzSCI Inbox' (with email AzSCI@azed.gov), and 'Alternate Assessment Inbox'.

<https://www.azed.gov/assessment>

Assessment's Quarterly Newsletter for DTCs: The Examiner

The Examiner 

An ADE Newsletter for Test Coordinators
August 2021 Edition



Assessments | Arizona Department of Education
Assessment Section

Audra Ahumada

Deputy Associate Superintendent
of Assessments



Here's to a new school year! We are looking forward to working with you to ensure a successful test administration season! On that note, we have created a few infographics to highlight key points of the new statewide achievement assessments. Links to these infographics can be found on the Assessment home page: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment>, and a screenshot of one of the infographics is included below. We have many more resources coming soon!

The Assessment Quarterly Newsletter is emailed to District Test Coordinators and posted on the Assessment Webpage: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/examiner>

2021-2022 Statewide Achievement Assessments

<p>AASA (Grades 3 – 8) Computer-Based: April 4 – 29 *Complete Writing by April 15 Paper-Based: April 4 – 13 *Schedule Writing for April 4-5</p>	<p>Test Windows</p> <p>AzSCI (Grades 5, 8, and Cohort 2023/Grade 11) March 21 – April 15</p> <p>ACT Aspire (Cohort 2025/Grade 9) Online: April 4 – April 29 Paper: April 4 – April 13</p>	<p>ACT (Cohort 2023/Grade 11) Paper: March 1 or April 5 Online: March 1-3 & March 8-10 or Online: April 5-7 & April 12-14</p>
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Questions



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