



**Assessment Updates**  
**ESS Special Education Directors Check-In**  
**November 18, 2021**

**Audra Ahumada**  
**Deputy Associate Superintendent of Assessment**  
**Arizona Department of Education**

# Welcome and Overview

- **Where we are today**
- **Accommodations**
- **Assessment End of Test Survey Results**
- **ADE Assessment Resources**
  - **Friday Focus Webinars**
  - **Office Hours**
  - **Website Resources**
  - **Quarterly Newsletter**

# 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)\*New in name only, still same items (bank), scoring, etc.
  - ACT Aspire (Grade 9)
  - ACT (Grade 11)
  - AzSCI (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
  - MSAA Science (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
- **Stand-Alone Field Tests (All Students must participate)!**
  - AZELLA (Oct 11-Dec 10)
  - AASA Writing (January 24-Feb 18)
- **Participating in development of Alternate ELP Assessment**
  - CAAELP
  - Utilization of CCSSO's Alternate English Language Proficiency Standards

# Requesting Accommodations

## For AASA, AzSCI, AZELLA and ACT Aspire

- Review Friday Focus Webinar (Slides/Recording/FAQ):  
**Accessibility and Assessments**
  - [ADE Assessment Friday Focus Webinar](#)  
Under Friday Focus Tab
- Review Accommodation Manuals
  - [ADE Assessments Accommodations Manuals](#)
- Submit requests for
  - Additional Accommodations
  - Special Paper Version
  - AASA, AzSCI and ACT Aspire: [AASA, AzSCI and ACT Aspire SPV Request Form](#)
  - AZELLA DTC Page under EL/SPED Guidance Tab  
[AZELLA Request Forms](#)

## For ACT

- Review Accommodations Webinar held November 10, 2021
- Review ACT Accommodations Manual
- Obtain Consent to Release Information form
- [Step 3 ACT Accommodation Tasks](#)

# Accommodations

- **ADE has been communicating processes for District Test Coordinators (DTCs) to submit Special Paper Version Requests, Additional Accommodations Requests to ADE for AASA, AzSCI, AZELLA and ACT Aspire**

**DUE: February 25, 2022**

## **FOR ACT:**

- **DTCs must submit accommodation in ACT Accommodation Request Platform (TAA)**

**DUE: January 7, 2022**

**Note: As of this week there are 350. Last year we had over 4,000 approvals**

# End of Test Survey

- **District Test Coordinators (DTCs) identified in each district**
- **Test Administrators (TAs)**
  - Teachers in tested grades (3-8 and 10)
  - Assistant principals
  - Principals
  - Staff members who administer the test

# Survey Participation

## DTC Survey

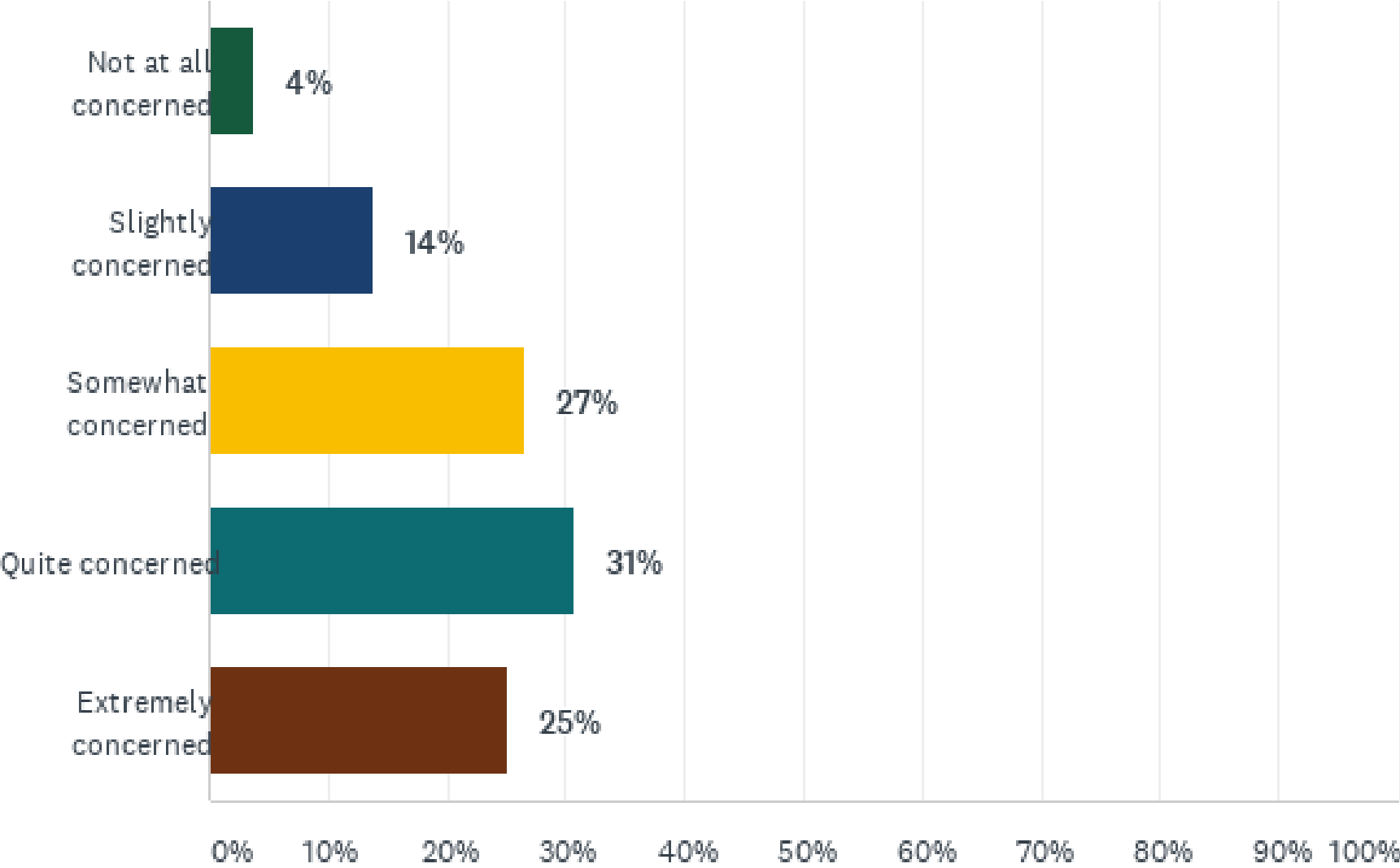
- ✓ Link by email
- ✓ All registered DTCs in TIDE
- ✓ Was sent out to 596 DTCs
- ✓ Response rate 63%

DTC: District Test Coordinators

## TA Survey

- ✓ Link by email
- ✓ All test administrators in TIDE
- ✓ Teachers, principals and Assistant principals
- ✓ Teachers in tested grades
- ✓ Was sent to 24,365 TAs
- ✓ Response rate 12%

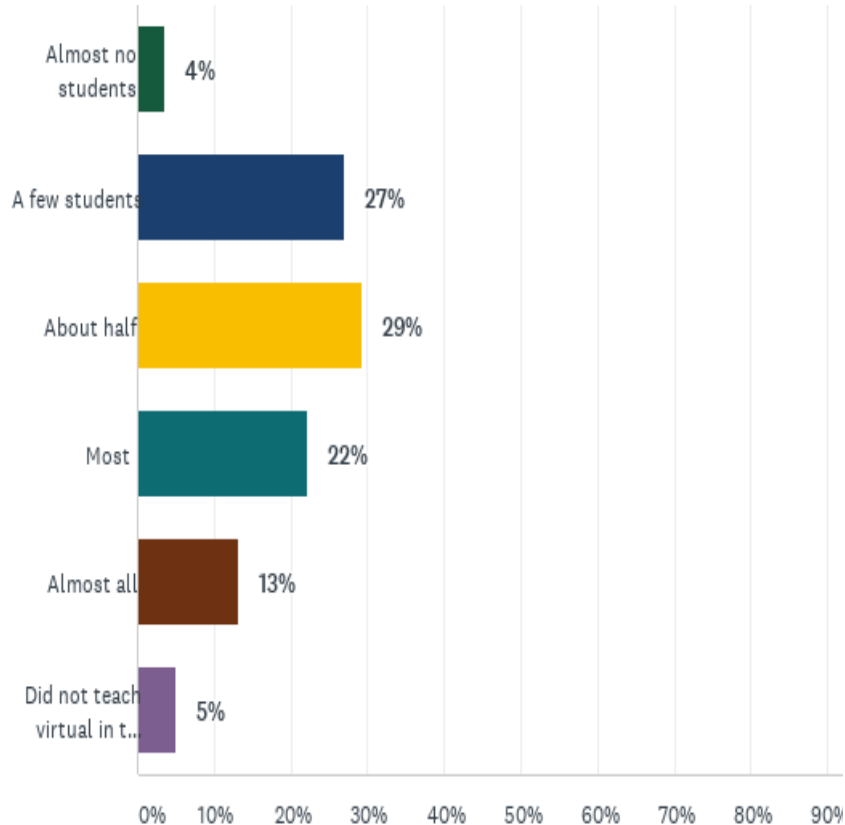
# How concerned are you about students' academic growth right now?



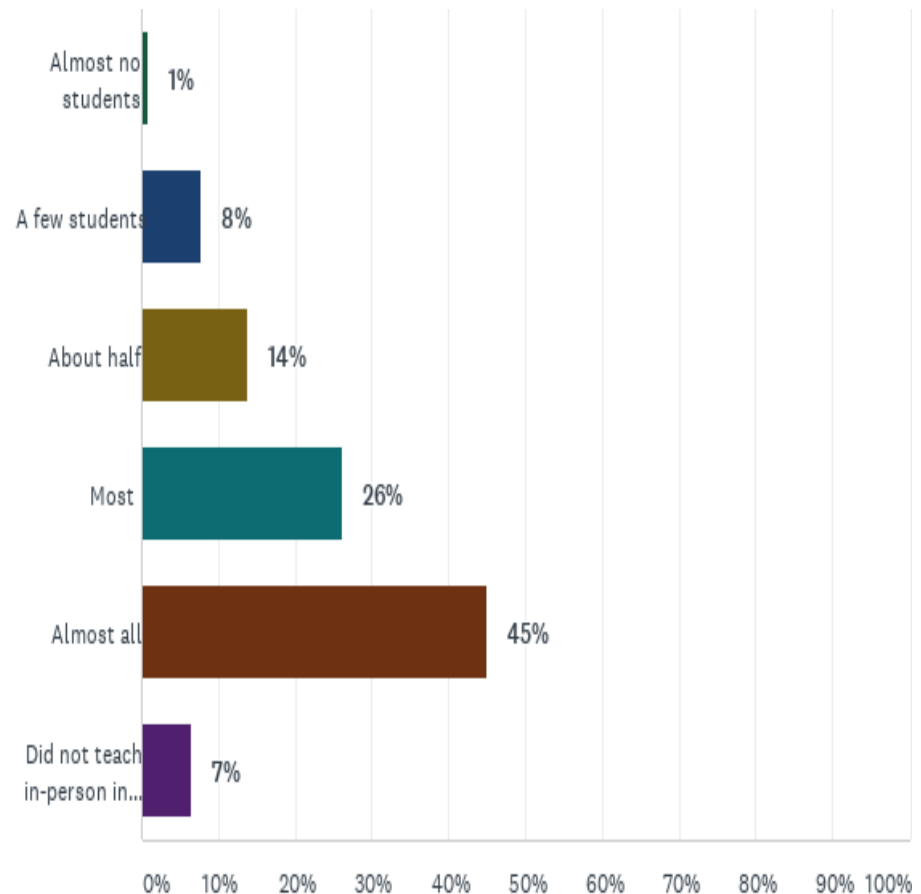


# Student Engagement- TA Survey

When providing instruction in the last year, how many of your students regularly participated in your virtual classes?



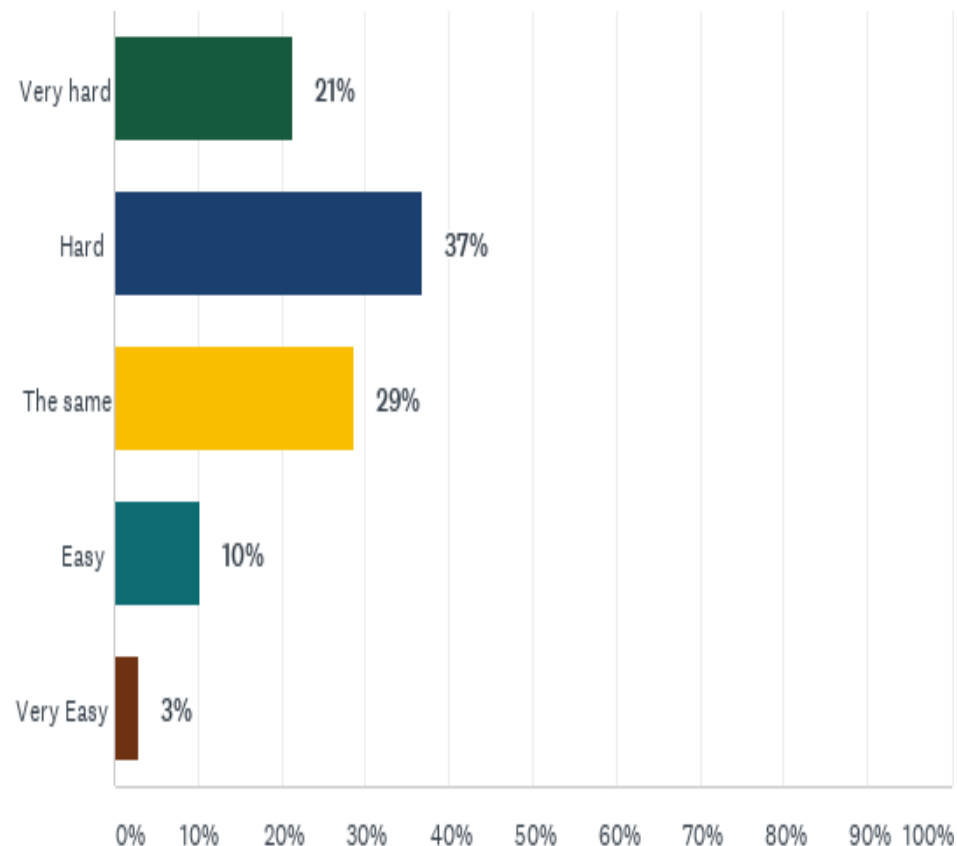
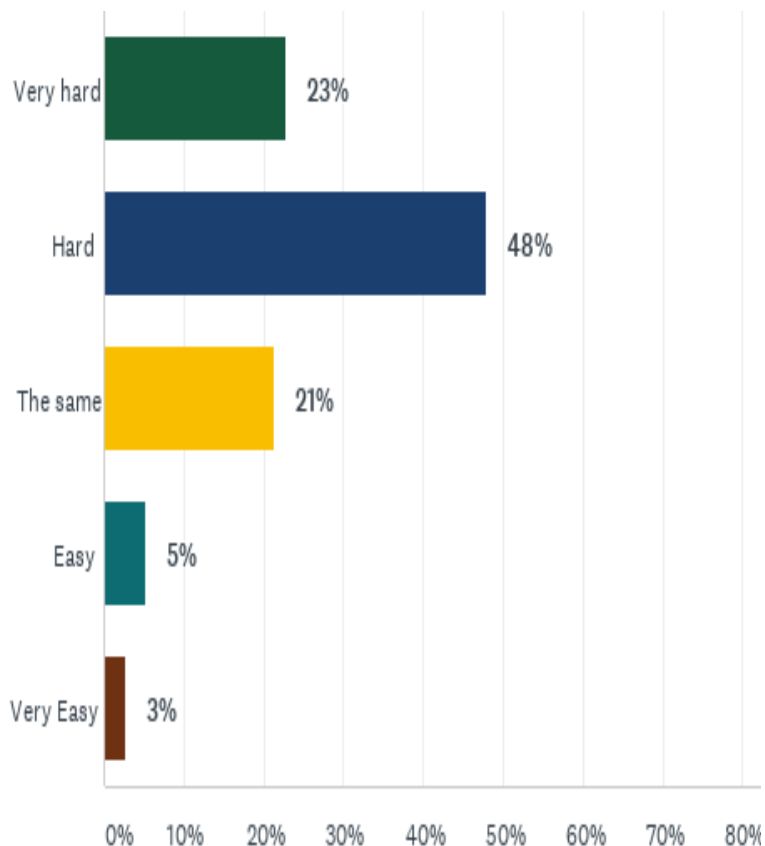
When providing instruction in the last year, how engaged have students been in your in-person classes?



# Student/Teacher Engagement- TA Survey

Compared to past years, how much harder or easier is it to connect and get to know your students this year?

Compared to past years, how much harder or easier is it to connect with families this year?





# **ADE Assessment Resources**


# 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>

 <b>Assessments</b>   Arizona Department of Education Assessment Section		
<b>Assessments Overview – 2021-2022 School Year</b>		
Achievement Assessments	Test Window	Grade Level(s) Tested
Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)*/^/****	<b>Computer-Based Test Window:</b> April 4 – 29, 2022 (Writing must be completed by April 15, 2022) <b>Paper-Based Test Window:</b> 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)	<b>Computer-Based Test Window:</b> April 4 – 29, 2022 <b>Paper-Based Test Window:</b> 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.  <b>Test Window 1:</b> <b>Standard Paper Testing:</b> March 1, 2022 <b>Accommodations Paper Testing:</b> March 1-4 & 7-11, 2022 <b>Online Testing (Standard and Accommodations):</b> March 1-3 & March 8-10, 2022  <b>Test Window 2:</b> <b>Standard Paper Testing:</b> April 5, 2022 <b>Accommodations Paper Testing:</b> April 5-8 & 11-15, 2022 <b>Online Testing (Standard and Accommodations):</b> April 5-7 & April 12-14, 2022	Grade 11 (Cohort 2023)
AzSCI****	<b>Computer-Based Test Window:</b> 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 – CCR 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.

Arizona Department of Education 8/11/2021

# 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

\*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.

# **AASA, AzSCI, ACT Aspire and ACT Resources**

## **Updated Resources for: AASA**

- **Blueprints**
- **Item Specifications**
- **PLDs**
- **Sample Tests**

## **AzSCI**

- **Sample Tests**
- **Item Specifications**

## **ACT Aspire and ACT Resources:**

- **Exemplars**
- **Tutorials**
- **Calculator Policies**
- **Accommodations**
- **Practice Tests**
  - **Free Test Preparation**

# Statewide Achievement Assessment 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](mailto:AASA@azed.gov) or [AzSCI@azed.gov](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Testing@azed.gov) or for AzSCI - [AzSCI@azed.gov](mailto: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](mailto:AZELLA@azed.gov)
- ✓ PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>: <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](http://www.msaaassessment.org)
- ✓ Eligibility criteria – updated July 2021. This form must be used for all current IEPs
- ✓ Administration information: [www.msaaassessment.org](http://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

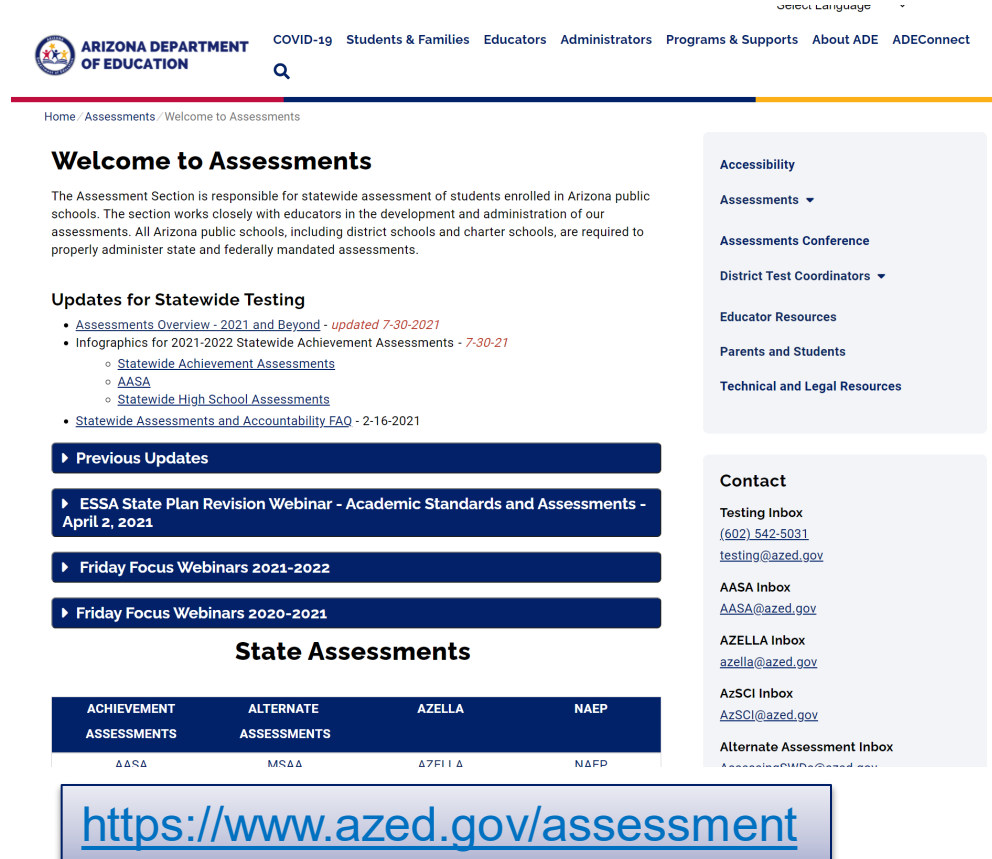
Contact us: [AlternateAssessment@azed.gov](mailto:AlternateAssessment@azed.gov)



# 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 (ADE) website's Assessment page. The header includes the ADE logo, navigation links for COVID-19, Students & Families, Educators, Administrators, Programs & Supports, About ADE, and ADEConnect. A search bar is also present. The main content area is titled "Welcome to Assessments" and provides an overview of the Assessment Section's role. It lists updates for statewide testing, including links to assessment overviews, infographics, and specific assessment pages (AASA, Statewide High School Assessments, and Statewide Assessments and Accountability FAQ). A sidebar on the right contains links for Accessibility, Assessments, Assessments Conference, District Test Coordinators, Educator Resources, Parents and Students, and Technical and Legal Resources. A contact section at the bottom right lists various inboxes (Testing, AASA, AZELLA, AzSCI, Alternate Assessment) with their respective phone numbers and email addresses. A footer bar at the bottom contains a large blue button with the URL <https://www.azed.gov/assessment>.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

COVID-19 Students & Families Educators Administrators Programs & Supports About ADE ADEConnect

Home / Assessments / Welcome to Assessments

## Welcome to Assessments

The Assessment Section is responsible for statewide assessment of students enrolled in Arizona public schools. The section works closely with educators in the development and administration of our assessments. All Arizona public schools, including district schools and charter schools, are required to properly administer state and federally mandated assessments.

### Updates for Statewide Testing

- Assessments Overview - 2021 and Beyond - updated 7-30-2021
- Infographics for 2021-2022 Statewide Achievement Assessments - 7-30-21
  - Statewide Achievement Assessments
    - AASA
    - Statewide High School Assessments
- Statewide Assessments and Accountability FAQ - 2-16-2021

▶ Previous Updates

▶ ESSA State Plan Revision Webinar - Academic Standards and Assessments - April 2, 2021

▶ Friday Focus Webinars 2021-2022

▶ Friday Focus Webinars 2020-2021

### State Assessments

ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENTS	ALTERNATE ASSESSMENTS	AZELLA	NAEP
AASA	MSAA	A7F11A	NAEP

### Contact

Testing Inbox  
(602) 542-5031  
[testing@azed.gov](mailto:testing@azed.gov)

AASA Inbox  
[AASA@azed.gov](mailto:AASA@azed.gov)

AZELLA Inbox  
[azella@azed.gov](mailto:azella@azed.gov)

AzSCI Inbox  
[AzSCI@azed.gov](mailto:AzSCI@azed.gov)

Alternate Assessment Inbox  
[Assessments@azed.gov](mailto:Assessments@azed.gov)

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

# AZELLA Office Hours

- Twice a week
- Schedule and Topic posted
  - Platform
  - Registering Students
  - Starting Tests
- Teams Platform
- Vendor partnership

## AZELLAology

AZELLAology is a live question-and-answer video call where the AZELLA Team will share information, news, guidance, mini-tutorials, and provide answers to your AZELLAology topic related questions.

This is an open invitation for our AZELLA District Test Coordinators. Each live video call will be through the **Microsoft Teams** application. It's a video call because we will be sharing our live screen to coach you through applications, reports, and other AZELLA topics. The video call will be up to one hour and focused on just a few specific AZELLA topics. We will answer as many of your session topic-specific questions as possible during this hour. These AZELLAology video calls are informal and they will not be recorded.

You are not required to attend the AZELLAology sessions, but if you see a topic that interests you please consider jumping on the call. Some topics may be revisited during other AZELLAology sessions as needed.

All sessions, unless otherwise noted, are from **8:00 - 9:00am**. Your first connection will take you to a web page for **Microsoft Teams**. The Microsoft Teams application can be accessed by 1) Downloading the Windows app, 2) Using Teams through the current web browser **without downloading anything**, or 3) Use your Teams app if you already have it.

### AZELLAology Session

Click on the above button before the session starts. You will be placed into a waiting room.

- **Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 8:00 - 9:00am**
  - Topics: *Open Office Hours for your questions*
- **Thursday, October 7, 2021 @ 8:00 - 9:00am**
  - Topics: *Open Office Hours for your questions*
- **Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 8:00 - 9:00am**
  - Topics: *Open Office Hours for your SAFT questions*

# 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!

### 2021-2022 Statewide Achievement Assessments

**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

**Test Windows**  
**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)

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

# Questions



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# Thank you!

For questions, please contact us at:  
**Testing@azed.gov**

