



Spring 2022 AASA Writing Stand-Alone Field Test (SAFT) Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What grade levels will participate in the Writing SAFT?**
The AASA Writing SAFT will be administered to all students in Grades 3-8.
- 2. When is the test window for the Writing SAFT?**
The AASA Writing SAFT window is January 24 – February 18, 2022.
- 3. Why is there a need for the Writing SAFT?**
At the end of the contract with Cambium for AzM2 (AzMERIT), ADE did not own the writing items. We are focused on developing Arizona-specific items for our item bank.
- 4. What will be included in the Writing SAFT?**
Each student will respond to one Writing prompt only. No editing tasks will be included in the Writing SAFT.
- 5. How much time should be allotted for the Writing SAFT test session?**
The estimated session time is 60-90 minutes, which is the same as the estimated session time for the operational AASA Writing test.
- 6. What tools will be available in the online test?**
Tools embedded in the online test include Text to Speech, line reader, highlighters, dictionary, and thesaurus. Please have students familiarize themselves with the online platform and tools available by using the AASA Sample Test. From this link: <https://home.testnav.com/>, click on "Arizona", then "Mic Check & Sample Tests" to access the AASA Sample Tests.
- 7. Will a rubric be provided for the Writing SAFT?**
The writing rubrics from AzM2 have been rebranded for AASA and are posted on the AASA page of our website: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/aasa>, under "AASA Writing Resources". Aside from rebranding, the rubrics are unchanged from the AzM2/AzMERIT rubrics.
- 8. Is the Writing SAFT online only? Is there a paper-based option?**
AASA testing is online, by default. However, districts or charters who requested paper-based testing for AASA in the ADEConnect Testing Mode Selection application (September 20-October 15, 2021) are automatically signed up for paper-based testing for the Writing SAFT as well, as this is part of AASA. The application window for requesting paper-based testing is now closed.
- 9. Will schools and students receive test results from the Writing SAFT?**
No, schools and students do not receive test results from any Arizona field tests, including the Writing SAFT.
- 10. Will students take Writing on both the AASA and the Writing SAFT?**
Yes, students in Grades 3-8 will take Writing on both the operational AASA in April 2022 and the Writing SAFT in January-February 2022.