

Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA): Next Steps

To: KEA District/Charter Test Coordinators (DTCs)

From: Audra Ahumada, Deputy Associate Supt. of Assessment Arizona Department of Education

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For most LEAs the 45-day KEA requirement to evaluate all kindergarten students is here. There are currently over 50,000 kindergarten students entered into the system.

The legislature enacted HB2060 (Chapter 170) <u>https://legiscan.com/AZ/text/HB2060/2023</u> which will take effect on October 30, 2023. This law allows (LEAs) to select their own Kindergarten Entry Assessment and have it approved by LEA's Governing Board. A.R.S. 15-701(3) requires universal screening of preschool program, kindergarten programs and grades 1 through 3 that is designed to identify pupils who have reading deficiencies.

The Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) platform will not close, those Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that elect to use the KEA from TSG may continue to do so. The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) will receive various data reports from TSG throughout the year.

ADE will only provide technical support/assistance and funding for the KEA with TSG which was approved by the State Board of Education.

ADE has received many questions about data collection, the law does not identify what must be collected and who that data should be shared with outside of your LEA. At this time, there is no requirement to submit any data to ADE regarding the LEA-selected Kindergarten Entry Assessment. ADE will continue to receive data/information from TSG for those LEAs that have selected this assessment for their use.