



Assessments

Friday Focus Webinar – Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) November 17, 2023

If a school changes application and does not use Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG), what kind of reporting will be required for the State for new students and for future school years?

At this time, there are no reporting requirements for Local Education Agencies (LEAs). Arizona Department of Education (ADE) encourages the LEA to be prepared to produce high level information such as the number of students administered the LEA's approved Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).

Will there be an approved list of applications outside of TSG?

Not at this time.

Do we only administer the KEA once per year for kindergarten students? Do we administer the KEA when a new kindergarten student comes into our school?

Correct, the law states within the first 45 days of school and then for any newly enrolled kindergartener within the first 45 days of enrolling.

Must we use an assessment that is called a "KEA"? Are there any guidelines on what a KEA should assess?

There are not any specific guidelines. The purpose is to provide teachers with information for any new kindergarten student that will help in support and teaching the student. The current State Board of Education-approved KEA has information in the following domains: Social Emotional Development, Physical, Language and Literacy, Cognitive/Approaches to Learning, and Mathematics.

What does it mean that the assessment must be "observation based"?

During the webinar, it was stated that the current KEA is observation based. The teacher observes specific skills and rates the student's readiness level. The LEA KEA should be accessible to all students, including students with disabilities and significant cognitive disabilities.

Is there a specific KEA Report?

In the TSG system, there are reports that are accessible to the teacher and to the designated KEA District/Charter Test Coordinator. The Assessment Status Report is available to the Administrator to confirm that students have been assessed.

Can the KEA assessment be district-created?

There are not any specific guidelines, except that it must be approved by the LEA's governing board, and it should be the same assessment for all of the schools in the LEA.



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How would we know that all of our KEA data was submitted successfully?

There is not really anything that signals the data has been submitted successfully. However, the [Assessment Status Report](#) will identify if a student has been assessed.

What if a teacher's ratings were not finalized, but ratings do show as completed?

As long as a teacher has entered ratings in either the area labeled "KEA" or "Checkpoints," there are no further actions necessary. Depending on how and where the ratings were entered, they may or may not immediately see the "finalize" button. Data entered in either location will be available to ADE.

Could the student information system and KEA be integrated?

ADE will not be integrating AZEDs with the TSG platform. Teaching Strategies is working on a solution to be available for the 2024-2025 academic year that will allow programs to integrate with Teaching Strategies via Clever or Classlink. Programs may reach out to AZKEA@teachingstrategies.com to express interest.

Webinar Information

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 2023-2024" dropdown. If you attended the live webinar, you can access your certificate through your account in the ADE Professional Learning & Development (APLD) system.