



FRIDAY FOCUS

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DEPUTY ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF ASSESSMENT

AUGUST 15, 2025

AGENDA

Friday Focus Schedule

Reporting 2024-2025

Look Ahead to 2025-2026

Legal Updates

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY FOCUS SCHEDULE

Today: The State of Assessment – an Overview for the 2025-2026 School Year

September 12: Statewide Assessments Stakeholder Feedback

September 26: Alternate Assessments

October 10: ACT Enhancements

October 17: AZELLA Accommodations

November 21: Letter Grades, Appeals, and Accountability Updates

January 9: Reducing Achievement Testing Irregularities

May 1: Looking Ahead to 2026-2027

REPORTS 2024-2025

All assessment results have been posted

Share results with parents/guardians

- Send paper reports home
- Include in parent-teacher conferences
- Use reporting guides to explain the results

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW - ACHIEVEMENT

2025-2026 Assessments Overview

Achievement Assessments

Assessment	Grade(s)	Test Window	
AASA (ELA and Math) */A/**/****/*****	Grades 3-8	Computer-Based Testing: March 30 - April 24, 2026 (Grades 3-8 Writing and Grade 3 ELA Oral Reading Fluency must be completed by April 10, 2026)	Paper-Based Testing: March 30 - April 8, 2026 (Grades 3-8 Writing must be scheduled for March 30 or March 31, 2026) (Grade 3 ELA Oral Reading Fluency must be completed by April 10, 2026)
AzSCI (Science) ****	Grades 5, 8, and 11 (Cohort 2027)	Computer-Based Testing: March 16 - April 10, 2026	
ACT Aspire ***/****	Grade 9 (Cohort 2029)	Computer-Based Testing: March 30 - April 24, 2026	Paper-Based Testing: March 30 - April 8, 2026
ACT (with Science and Writing) */**/****/*****	Grade 11 (Cohort 2027)	Test Window 1: Paper (Standard): March 24, 2026 Paper (Accommodations): March 24-27, March 30-31, April 1-3, 2026 Online: March 24-27, March 30-31, April 1-3, 2026	Test Window 2: Paper (Standard): April 7, 2026 Paper (Accommodations): April 7-10 & April 13-17, 2026 Online: April 7-10 & April 13-17, 2026

https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2025/04/Assessments_Overview_2526.pdf

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW - ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

English Language Proficiency Assessment

Assessment	Grade(s)	Test Window
AZELLA Placement **/**	KPT & Grades 1-12	Two weeks before the first instructional day of school through May 8, 2026
AZELLA Spring Reassessment **/**	Grades K-12	January 26 - March 13, 2026
Alt ELPA Screener **/**	Eligible students in Grades K-12	August 4, 2025 - May 8, 2026
Alt ELPA Summative **/**	Eligible students in Grades K-12	January 26 - March 13, 2026

https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2025/04/Assessments_Overview_2526.pdf

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW - ALTERNATE

Alternate Assessment

Assessment	Grade(s)	Test Window
MCAA – ELA and Math */***/****	Eligible students in Grades 3 - 8 and 11	March 9 – April 24, 2026
MCAA – Science ****	Eligible students in Grades 5, 8, and 11	March 9 – April 24, 2026

ASSESSMENTS INFOGRAPHICS

Statewide Assessments Infographics for 2025-2026

- [AASA](#)
- [AzSCI](#)
- [ACT Aspire](#)
- [ACT](#)
- [Statewide High School Assessments](#)
- [Alternate Assessments](#)
- [AZELLA](#)

Achievement Assessments Overview - Coming Soon

<https://www.azed.gov/assessment/statewide-assessments-infographics-2025-2026>

2025-2026 Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)

Computer-Based Testing (CBT) Window	Paper-Based Testing (PBT) Window
Grades 3-8 ELA Writing Unit and Grade 3 ELA Oral Reading Fluency Unit: March 30 – April 10, 2026 ELA Reading Units 1 & 2 and Math Units 1 & 2: March 30 – April 24, 2026	Grades 3-8 ELA Writing, Reading, and Math Units: March 30 – April 8, 2026 *Schedule Writing for March 30 or March 31, 2026 Grade 3 ELA Oral Reading Fluency Unit: March 30 – April 10, 2026

AASA – Grades 3-8 – Overview

- ✓ AASA ELA Writing, ELA Reading, and Math test units are untimed. The Grade 3 Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) test items are timed.
- ✓ All ELA test units must have a valid score to receive an ELA score. All Math test units must have a valid score to receive a Math score. To receive a valid score, students must respond to at least one item in each test unit.
- ✓ Calculator usage is permitted in **Grades 7 and 8 Math Unit 1 only**. The [Desmos Scientific](#) calculator is embedded in the online test.
- ✓ **Grade 3:** ELA includes Writing, Reading Unit 1, Reading Unit 2, and ORF. Math includes Math Unit 1 and Math Unit 2.
- ✓ The Grade 3 ORF test unit will be included in the Grade 3 ELA scores and in the Move On When Reading indicator. ORF will be administered in small groups online in TestNav for both CBT and PBT schools.
- ✓ **Grades 4-8:** ELA includes Writing, Reading Unit 1, and Reading Unit 2. Math includes Math Unit 1 and Math Unit 2.

Accessibility

- ✓ Arizona Accommodations Manual: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/accessibility>
- ✓ Special Paper Version tests available - Braille, large print, and regular print
- ✓ American Sign Language (ASL) test forms are available for Math and Writing.
- ✓ Submit requests for Special Paper Version tests, ASL tests, and Additional Accommodations **September 10, 2025 – February 6, 2026**. Submission request forms and request process quick guides are published at <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/aasa>.

Resources

- ✓ ELA and Math Essential Standards: <https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/english-language-arts-and-math-essential-standards>
- ✓ Sample Tests and Student Readiness Tool: <https://home.testnav.com/> Login is not required. Select "Arizona," then select "Mic Check & Sample Tests."
- ✓ PearsonAccess^{next}: <https://az.pearsonaccessnext.com/>
- ✓ Blueprints, Item Specifications, Performance Level Descriptors, and Sample Test Scoring Guides, and Calculator Guidance: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/resources>
- ✓ Pearson-hosted support website: <https://az-support.mypearsonsupport.com/aasa/>

Email: AASA@azed.gov



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

ASSESSMENT FLYER

https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/Assessments_Flyer.pdf

Educator Resources:



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






A Guide to Arizona's Statewide Assessments

Why are Statewide Assessments given?

Statewide Assessments show how well schools are teaching and how well students are learning. Statewide Assessments are aligned to Arizona's Academic Standards and are required by state and federal law.

What are the Statewide Assessments my student may take?	When are Statewide Assessments given?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA) English Language Arts and Math; Grades 3-8• Arizona's Science Assessment (AzSCI) Science; Grades 5, 8, and 11th grade cohort• ACT Aspire – English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing; 9th grade cohort• ACT – English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing; 11th grade cohort• Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) English Language Arts, Math, Science (for eligible students)• Arizona's English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) – English Language Proficiency (for eligible students)• Alt ELPA – Alternate English Language Proficiency (for eligible students)	<p>Statewide Assessments are administered each spring.</p>  <p>https://tinyurl.com/Assessments-Overview</p> <h3>Where can I access resources for Statewide Assessments?</h3>  <p>https://www.azed.gov/assessment</p>

Where can my student access Sample Tests?		
<p>AASA, AzSCI, ACT Aspire, ACT, and AZELLA: https://home.testnav.com</p> 	<p>MSAA: https://msaaassessment.org/tap/sample-items</p> 	<p>Alt ELPA: https://az.portal.cambium.ast.com/</p> 

For questions, contact ADE's Assessments team at Testing@azed.gov.

UPDATES - PEARSONACCESS NEXT (PAN)

AASA, AzSCI, AZELLA, ACT Aspire, and ACT are in PAN for 2025-2026.

Many changes for 2026-2027, but do not worry about those now. More information will be shared after testing windows close next year.

ACT ENHANCEMENTS

- o EMR composite (English, Math, and Reading)
- o Science and Writing are included in state test administration
- o Fewer test items overall and more time per test item
- o New full-length practice tests
- o ACT cut scores remain unchanged

TESTNAV

The TestNav Student Readiness Tool is available for AASA, AzSCI, and AZELLA and replaces the TestNav Tutorial that previously was available.

The Student Readiness Tool organizes the TestNav tools, question types, and test support lessons into an easily accessible format by grade and category.

Video lessons and interactive practice questions are embedded to provide students a hands-on experience with the tools, questions, or test support in the test environment. This provides students with an opportunity to know exactly how to find and use the tools during their actual test in TestNav.

NOTEPAD

AASA Math Notepad will not be included in the TestNav application

- all students must be provided scratch paper for testing

Notepad will continue to be available for AASA Writing and Reading units and for AzSCI.

Notepad has not been and will not be available for AZELLA.

NAVY

Formative assessment tool

Standards based and aligned to AASA

Contract (almost) executed

Statewide ELA and Math for all grades

https://www.pearsonassessments.com/large-scale-assessments/district-assessment/navvy-assessment.html?srsId=AfmBOoqambiQSuu38zu8v60QKUAgAHeogFRN1Ds5dOYn5nnnNG4_pTG_

To sign up or for more information:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/eead3118243148bf8cf35e358deba770>

HB2540

Paper-Based Testing (PBT)

- Schoolwide paper testing
- Now requires documentation of special circumstance
- **Request Window: September 8 – October 3, 2025**

Special Paper Version (SPV) Testing

- IEP/504 still accepted for individual students
- Parent requests go to school. School requests to ADE on behalf of parent.
- Religious accommodation allowed
- **Request Window: September 10, 2025 – February 6, 2026**

ACT Score Replacement

- Administered by someone other than the district/charter
- Request still sent to ADE by the school
- Must still be taken during same school year
- Must include the Writing test
- Does not require minimum score

REMOTE PROCTORING

Partially funded

Possible that it will be available for 2026-2027

Applies to fully online schools with no physical building

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

AASA/AzSCI Elementary

High School

AZELLA

MSAA

State Board of Education plans to send out a survey for AASA/AzSCI and High School soon.

Draft of RFPs (Achievement) will go to the State Board of Education for approval before posting for bids.

ESSENTIAL STANDARDS WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, August 27, 2025, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Friday, September 5, 2025, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Thursday, October 2, 2025, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

<https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/english-language-arts-and-math-essential-standards>

CONFERENCES

IDEA Conference

- August 21-22, 2025
- <https://www.azed.gov/ideaconference>

Assessments Conference – TBD (not in 2025)

QUESTIONS?

