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Weekly Count of Administered TESTS

Final Numbers as of March 16, 2016

	STARTED	COMPLETED
ELA CAT	8,557	5,795
MATH CAT	1,648	1,331
ELA PT	4,079	2,735
MATH PT	1,612	1,477
Science	53,884	49,917
Social Sciences	1,211	854
ELPA21 (all domains)	48,166	42,563
TOTAL	119,157	104,672

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Regional ESD Partners

www.ode.state.or.us/go/assessmenthelp

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- ➔ No articles this week

Next Generation Science Standards

- ➔ No articles this week



There will be no issue of the AA Update Next Week

Hope for sunshine!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD	
JANUARY 5 - JUNE 10	OAKS Online Testing Window for Science and Social Sciences
FEBRUARY 9 - APRIL 19	English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21 st Century (ELPA21) K-12 Testing Window
FEBRUARY 9 - JUNE 10	Smarter Balanced Testing Window for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics
FEBRUARY 18 - APRIL 28	OAKS Extended Assessment Testing Window for ELA, Mathematics, and Science
FEBRUARY 18 - MAY 13	OAKS Extended Assessment Data Entry Window for ELA, Mathematics, and Science
MARCH 10 - APRIL 8	Spring Collection Window for Staff Assignment 2015-16
MARCH 18 @ 5PM - 20 @ 7PM	OAKS Online Test Delivery system (including Practice Tests) and Online Reporting System (ORS) offline for scheduled maintenance
MARCH 31 - APRIL 25	Report Validation Window for Staff FTE, Staff Ethnicity 2015-16
APRIL 13 @ 2 PM	Webinar: Training for Third Period Cumulative ADM Collection 2015-16 NEW
APRIL 19	ELPA21 Window Closes
APRIL 21 - MAY 16	Report Validation Window for Institutions for Accountability Reports 2015-16 NEW
APRIL 21 - MAY 27	Collection Window for Third Period Cumulative ADM 2015-16 NEW
APRIL 26	ELPA21 Kindergarten and Grade 1 Paper/Pencil Writing Return Shipment Deadline NEW

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

No articles this week

Test Administration

HOLLY CARTER – INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT

www.ode.state.or.us/go/assessment

No articles this week

■ ELPA21**REMINDER: ELPA21 K-1 Paper/Pencil Section Completion**

The ELPA21 includes a new writing section for Kindergarten and 1st grade students only that is completed via paper/pencil. All English Learners who qualify to be annually assessed on the ELPA21 must also complete the paper/pencil section within Oregon's ELPA21 testing window. It is critical that districts track the student-level form completion so that the student tests are returned for scoring after the close of the window, and that 100% of eligible students participate. All paper/pencil materials must be postmarked for return on or before **April 26, 2016**. If you have questions about the return process, please review the instructions posted [here](#).

ELPA21 Testing 45-day Expiration Reminder

As noted in the 2015-16 Test Administration Manual, Section 9.4, ELPA21 testing opportunities expire after 45 calendar days from the first log in attempt. The 45th day of the ELPA21 testing window will occur next week, on March 24. With most school districts on spring break next week, please note that any student who started the ELPA21 on February 9 or 10 will have an expired test upon return to school on Monday, March 28. Each day thereafter, tests from the start of the ELPA21 testing window will expire, unless they are completed and submitted by the student. District staff can use the Online Reporting System to run participation reports for tests in progress, tests not started, and tests completed at any time. If you have questions about this process, please review the [Reporting System User Guide](#), page 69, or contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) for assistance.

If you have questions about this process, please contact your Regional ESD Partner for assistance.

ELPA21 Recruitment Re-Opened: Contrasting Groups Study**REPEAT**

The ELPA21 consortium is continuing to recruit for participants in the Contrasting Groups Study, which will take place during the months of March and April. ODE seeks additional teacher participants, particularly in grades 6 through 12. If you have previously submitted your information to participate, there is no need to reapply. All previous applicants should have already received a response from the vendor (Pacific Metrics).

Here is the information regarding the study and how to participate:

The Oregon Department of Education, as a member of the ELPA21 consortium, is seeking educators to participate in a Contrasting Groups Study during March & April 2016. This Contrasting Groups Study will ask educators to evaluate their current English Learners' English proficiency in relation to newly-drafted ELPA21 policy descriptors, and to share those educated judgments with us. The educators' approximations of language proficiency will then be compared to student performance on the 2015-16 ELPA21 Assessment as part of a standards setting ("cut scores") event in July 2016. At that event, the consortium will set cut scores for the ELPA21 assessment. The consortium will also finalize ELPA21's policy descriptors and performance descriptors at that time. The key educator input from this contrasting groups study will inform the final ELPA21 descriptors and the first cut scores that will measure our students' performance on ELPA21 and inform program exiting decisions. The study will also provide an important professional development opportunity for Oregon educators to work with the new descriptors and to internalize performance targets.

Potential participants should be current educators who are working in a K-12 classroom-level environment with identified English Learners who are receiving ELD instruction (no waived or monitor students). To apply, educators will need to complete an online application, estimated at 15-20 minutes. Once the educator is confirmed for participation in the study, the study's vendor, Pacific Metrics, will send information about the orientation webinar. Once that 1-hour training is complete, educators can begin sharing information about the ELs they teach, via a confidential online system.

Participating educators are asked to submit information on as many students as possible. The recruitment period for this study has been reopened. The recruitment closing date is **March 25, 2016**. The study itself is already underway, and will close in Oregon on **Friday, April 15, 2016**. Proficiency judgments can be entered at any time during the study window, but it is ideal if the approximations are made as closely as possible to the student participation in the operational ELPA21, and the approximations should be made prior to the student beginning the ELPA21. Total participation time in this study is 2 to 3 hours, depending on the total number of students that the educator includes. Participating educators can earn up to three hours of PDUs (based on the total of student information provided by the individual educator), once all results have been recorded and provided to ODE.

To be considered for participation in this opportunity, please use this [link](#) and submit your information on or before the end of the day on **Friday, March 25, 2016**. If you have any questions, please contact [Michelle McCoy](#).

■ EXTENDED ASSESSMENT

No articles this week

■ KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT

No articles this week

SMARTER BALANCED

Training Opportunity: Smarter Balanced Hand Scoring Pilot

ODE is seeking educators interested in participating in a pilot to determine the feasibility of using Oregon teachers to assist in the scoring of Smarter Balanced test items for the ELA and mathematics summative assessments. The initial training for this project will occur on **April 22, 2016**, at the Public Service Building in Salem. Following that training day, qualified raters would then commit to scoring items remotely during their own off-contract time during the spring.

The training is primarily intended for individuals who would like to gain professional development and increased knowledge of Smarter Balanced hand-scored items and the rubrics used to score them. Applicants would need to apply for either math or ELA scoring; for the purposes of this pilot, it would not be allowable to do both.

The application form for this event can be found on the ODE website at:

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3298>. The deadline for submitting an application is **April 7, 2016**.

ODE will notify successful applicants by April 8 of their inclusion in the pilot, along with information on next steps. Substitute and travel costs for the April 22 training day would be covered by ODE; during scoring, raters will receive a stipend of approximately \$20 per hour of work. It is anticipated that raters would be expected to work three evening shift or one weekend shift per week. In the selection process, priority will be given to current classroom teachers, although this is not a requirement for applying. Selection will also be partially based on geographic and grade distribution, with applications being considered in the order that they are received.

For additional information, please contact Ken Hermens, Language Arts Assessment Specialist (ken.hermens@state.or.us), or Bryan Toller, Mathematics Assessment Specialist (bryan.toller@state.or.us).

Professional Development Opportunity: Smarter Balanced Item Writing

ODE is seeking educators interested in participating as item writers for Smarter Balanced ELA and mathematics summative assessments. Successful applicants would be signed on as temporary employees of ODE and would receive compensation at the standard ODE rate for item developers (\$30.90 per hour). The time commitment would include time for both onsite training and item review, as well as time for independent development of items during the summer break.

The initial training will be held at the Public Service Building in Salem on the following dates:

- ELA training will be Thursday and Friday, **May 5 and 6, 2016**
- Math training will be Thursday and Friday, **May 26 and 27, 2016**

Those on a contract for those days would be eligible to have their districts reimbursed for substitute costs, and participants would be reimbursed for travel expenses. Following those training days, item writers would then commit to writing items remotely in preparation for a second in-person meeting to review and edit items which will be scheduled for late July. A final review of completed items would be scheduled in early August for a subset of the group.

The application forms for this event can be found on the ODE website at:

- <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=5478> for ELA
- <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=239> for math

The deadline for submitting an application is **Thursday, April 21, 2016**. Completed applications should be sent to the designated contact person listed on the application form.

ODE will notify successful applicants for both ELA and math by April 22 of their inclusion in the project, along with information on next steps. In the selection process, priority will be given to current classroom teachers, although this is not a requirement for applying. Selection will also be partially based on geographic and grade distribution, with applications being considered in the order that they are received.

For additional information, please contact Ken Hermens, Language Arts Assessment Specialist (ken.hermens@state.or.us) or Bryan Toller, Mathematics Assessment Specialist (bryan.toller@state.or.us).

■ SCIENCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

No articles this week

Accessibility Supports

SARAH DRINKWATER – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, STUDENT SERVICES

www.ode.state.or.us/go/ExtendedAssessments

“One or More” Accommodations Flag: Reminder

It is a federal requirement to indicate whether or not a student on an IEP or 504 Plan who takes the general assessment received one or more Accommodations (cf TAM, p. 99). While authorized users can indicate such through the “one or more” flag in TIDE, they can also provide this information in Student Centered Staging. (cf. p. 99, TAM)

For additional information contact Brad Lenhardt at Brad.Lenhardt@state.or.us.

Essential Skills

CRISTEN MCLEAN – ASSESSMENT POLICY ANALYST

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/ES>

Essential Skills Manual Update

The *2015-16 Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual* was updated on March 16 to reflect updates and additional guidance in the following sections:

- **Other Standardized Assessments section:** Updated information on ACT Writing.
- **English Language Learners:** Clarified that students who demonstrate their Essential Skills with accommodations do not have to re-demonstrate in English if they exit EL status.

The updated Manual is available at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/es>.

Accountability Reporting

JON WIENS – MANAGER, ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

www.ode.state.or.us/go/AsmtRpt

Virtual School Status Due Friday, March 18

The Oregon Department of Education is now collecting virtual school status for each public school. A spreadsheet went out via email to Superintendents and Business Managers last month to collect this information. Submission of this status is mandatory and due back by **Friday, March 18, 2016**. An [FAQ document](#) has been posted online in the [Schedule of Due Dates](#). If you have questions, please send them to ode.institutions-request@state.or.us.

Future Assessment Development

HOLLY CARTER – DIRECTOR, ASSESSMENT

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/assessment>

No articles this week

■ **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**

No articles this week