



[A&A Update Webpage](#)

Thursday, March 18, 2021

General Announcements

Test Administration

ELPA

Extended Assessment

Interim Assessment

Kindergarten Assessment

English Language Arts

Mathematics

Science

Social Sciences

Accessibility Supports

Essential Skills

[Accountability & Reporting](#)

Questions and Answers

CONTACTS

[Regional ESD Partners](#)

[Who To Contact at ODE](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

For the weeks and months ahead

Find all the Assessment & Accountability dates for the current school year in the

[A&A CHECKLIST](#)

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAM Revisions 3/16/21

A revised Test Administration Manual (TAM) for Spring 2021 was posted on 3/15/21. This revised TAM will be used for testing if the US Department of Education rejects ODE's assessment and accountability waiver request. Text that was changed from the October 2020 version of the TAM is in green font for ease of reference.

On 3/16, the revised TAM was reposted with minor edits. These edits include two spelling corrections, one date correction, reinsertion of two missing words, and revision of the introductory portion of directions that TAs are to read to students. A District Test Coordinator (DTC) Listserv communication was also disseminated with the exact page and content of these edits.

Please contact [Dan Farley](#) with any questions or concerns.

2020-21 Training Modules Updated

The required training modules for 2020-21 summative assessment have been updated. These training modules will be used to prepare District Test Coordinators (DTCs) and Test Administrators (TAs) if the US Department of Education rejects ODE's assessment and accountability waiver request. These modules are found on the [Assessment Training Materials](#) page, under the Training Modules pulldown. Modules whose content has been updated for summative testing in Spring 2021 have a revision date. (Modules without a revision date have no content changes from the version posted earlier in the 2020-21 school year.)

Please contact with [Dan Farley](#) any questions or concerns.

2020-21 Updated Forms **REPEAT**

The Assessment Team has updated all parent opt-out communications to be electronically fillable, where appropriate, and also to ensure that we have identified the correct test window for ELA, math, and science assessments (both general and alternate), which is **April 13, 2021 through June 11, 2021**. All of the documents are now posted on the Assessment Team webpage. You will find all of the updated documents at the following links:

- 2020-21 Annual Notice for Statewide Tests (Updated 3/10/21)
 - [English Annual Notice](#)
 - [Spanish Annual Notice](#)
- 2020-21 30-day Notice and Opt-out Form (Updated 3/10/21)
 - [English combined 30-day notice and opt-out form](#)
 - [English Parent Communication](#)
 - [Spanish combined 30-day notice and opt-out form](#)
 - [Spanish Parent Communication](#)

Please contact [Dan Farley](#), Director of Assessment, if you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations. We are working on developing answers to the questions we received this yesterday morning, as well, and hope to share those with you all soon.

SEED Survey to Launch April 13, 2021 REPEAT

ODE has developed a student-facing survey known as the Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey. This survey will help the Oregon Department of Education gather information about the educational experiences of students in Oregon, which in turn will help ODE target resources and supports, and better interpret information already being gathered through statewide testing. The survey window will be open **April 13, 2021 through June 11, 2021**.

A Communication Toolkit for the survey can be found on the [SEED Survey page](#). This toolkit includes an overview of the survey, communication templates for parents and staff, and survey specifications. Because the survey is non-secure, the full version of the SEED Survey has been posted to the SEED Survey page for all grade levels.

ODE encourages district participation and has streamlined the training and administration process to maximize survey efficiency. Options for administration include in-person or remote administration in both proctored and non-proctored formats. During this pilot year, participation in the SEED Survey is optional for districts, but we sincerely hope you will participate and contribute to a greater understanding of student educational experiences in Oregon.

Please contact [Noelle Gorbett](#), Assessment Specialist, with any questions or concerns.

SEED Survey Clarification on Parent Consent REPEAT

Districts are not required to obtain parent consent before delivering the survey; however, it is good practice to give parents sufficient notice of the survey so they have an understanding of the purpose of the survey and an opportunity to notify the district that they do not want their child to participate. There is no stated requirement for notification within a minimum number of days prior to the survey. Please see the SEED Survey Staff Communication and FAQ Template and Parent Communication Templates in the [SEED Survey Communication Toolkit](#).

The specific method (email, paper mail, automated call, website posting, etc.) for communicating this information to parents is at the district's discretion; however, we advise districts to consider which forms of communication will be most effective.

Please contact [Noelle Gorbett](#), Assessment Specialist, with any questions or concerns.

2021 OSAS Math Item Developers Needed **REPEAT**

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is seeking educators interested in developing mathematics items for the high school assessments within the Oregon Statewide Assessment System. Item development will take place remotely in June 2021, after the completion of the 2020-21 school year. The commitment includes both synchronous and asynchronous time for training, item drafting, and review of items. Interested applicants should complete [this application](#) by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021**. ODE will notify successful applicants on Monday, March 29, 2021, along with information on next steps. Selected applicants will participate in a required initial orientation in April; the specific date and time will be determined via an online poll. Item authors will then asynchronously complete a series of short training modules before drafting items in June. Synchronous support will be available continually throughout the project. Item authors should plan for a 20 hour commitment, which will be completed no later than Friday, July 2, 2021.

For additional information, please refer to the complete [recruitment letter](#) or contact [Andy Byerley](#), Mathematics Assessment Specialist.

Recruitment Open for “Tools for Teachers” Instructional Resource Authors **REPEAT**

For the first time in Oregon, recruitment is open for the State Network of Educators (SNE) Virtual Summer Workshops scheduled for **June 14-18** and **July 12-16, 2021**. SNE Workshops provide educators with an in-depth opportunity to learn the formative assessment process as they contribute to the critical work of building new instructional resources for Tools for Teachers. The [SNE Workshop Recruitment page](#) includes workshop information including timelines, agendas, FAQ, and more. Interested ELA and math educators should complete the [“Save the Date”](#) form by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021**.

Learn more about [Tools for Teachers](#) in this YouTube video. For more information on the State Network of Educators, please contact [Andy Byerley](#), Mathematics Assessment Specialist, or [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA and Social Sciences Assessment Specialist.

TEST ADMINISTRATION

ELPA

Future K Scoring Change on ELPA Screener **REPEAT**

The proficiency threshold for the “Future K” English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Screener has changed from previous years. Students taking the Future K Screener are now Proficient if they score a **3 or more on all non-exempt domains**. While this change takes effect immediately, it will not be reflected on Individual Student Reports (ISRs) until after the July system rollover. Until then, districts should manually verify all proficiency determinations for students testing on the Future K form.

The Future K scoring window opens on March 1, 2021 and extends until December 31, 2021. All students who will be entering Kindergarten in the 2021-22 school year should be tested using the Future K form during this window.

Please contact [Ben Wolcott](#) with any questions or concerns.

ELPA Screener Expiration Rule Extended **REPEAT**

The English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Screener expiration rule (also known as the “auto submit” window) has been extended from 7 calendar days to 14 calendar days for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. ELPA Screener tests will now remain available for 14 calendar days after the student begins the test. After 14 calendar days, the test will expire and submit automatically. Districts Test Coordinators may

request to reopen expired ELPA Screener tests via the [test impropriety form](#). Users may track test expiration dates using participation reports in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE).

ODE will revisit the ELPA Screener expiration rule after the yearly system rollover in late July.

Please contact [Ben Wolcott](#) with questions or concerns.

ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING

Staff Validation Web Training: March 18, 2021 **REPEAT**

The Staff FTE, Staff Ethnicity, and Staff Retention and Experience validation Web Training will be held today, **March 18, 2021 at 2:00 PM**. The training can be accessed by going to the [ODE Video Training](#) page. The section is titled “Staff Validation 20-21 – March 18, 2021”. For more information, please see the Staff ADI Validation Guidance on the [Staff Position Resources](#) page. If you have any questions, please contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) or [Ryan Clark](#) at 503-947-5632.

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