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CONTACTS

Regional ESD Partners

<http://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/esdpartners.pdf>

Who To Contact at ODE

<http://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/aa-who-to-contact.pdf>

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

Regional ESD Partner Support

The Regional ESD partner contact list has been updated to reflect a shift in Assessment contacts for the Region 2 service area, which includes the following counties: Coos, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake and Lane, and the Region 3 service area which includes: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Wheeler. The accountability and collections support staff remain unchanged.

Amy Rockwell will continue to provide assessment support to Region 1 in addition to providing assessment support to Region 2.

Ronda Thornburg will provide assessment support to Region 3.

Your Regional ESD partners are available Monday through Friday, 7:30-4:30. The updated contact information is on the [ODE website](#).

TEST ADMINISTRATION

ELPA21

ELPA21 Testing Window Closes Friday, April 13, 2018

The 2017-18 ELPA21 testing window will close on **Friday, April 13** at 11:59 p.m. PT. District staff can use the Online Reporting System to run participation reports for tests that are still in progress, tests not started, and tests completed, in order to know which students may not have finished and submitted their ELPA21 opportunities. All students with an LEP code set to "Y" will show in these reports. If you have questions about this process, please contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) for assistance. If districts require technical assistance related to administering ELPA21, please contact the [OAKS Help Desk](#) at oaks.helpdesk@air.org prior to the end of the test window.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Essential Skills Assessment Option Update: WorkKeys 2.0

The Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel (AESRP) recently made a recommendation to the State Board of Education to accept WorkKeys 2.0 as an Essentials Skills assessment option. AESRP has the responsibility of recommending the assessments and achievement standards for demonstrating proficiency in the Essential Skills. The State Board of Education first approved WorkKeys 1.0 assessments as options for demonstrating proficiency in the reading and math Essential Skills in 2009. In winter 2018, ACT began publishing the WorkKeys 2.0 assessments. In January 2018, AESRP met and reviewed the WorkKeys 2.0 assessments and identified comparable achievement standards as those that had been adopted for the WorkKeys 1.0 assessments.

On March 22, 2018, the State Board adopted AESRP's recommendation.

- WorkKeys 2.0 Workplace Documents is approved as an assessment option to fulfill the Reading Essential Skill when a student earns a score of 79 or higher.
- WorkKeys 2.0 Applied Math is approved as an assessment option to fulfill the Math Essential Skill when a student earns a score of 79 or higher.

WorkKeys assessments administered in January 2018 or later are likely WorkKeys 2.0. If the Reading WorkKeys assessment is WorkPlace Documents, then you are using the WorkKeys 2.0 assessments and need to use the new cut scores.

Contact Cristen McLean at cristen.mclean@state.or.us or 503-947-5842 with questions.

Essential Skills Option for English Learners: OAR Amendment

The State Board of Education's recent amendment to the *Essential Skills for English Language Learners* OAR (581-022-2120) includes an important policy update for school districts that have adopted a policy allowing English Learners (ELs) to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in the students' language of origin.

Policy Update

An EL student pursuing a diploma in 2017-2018 or 2018-2019 may demonstrate proficiency in the reading and/or writing Essential Skills in the student's language of origin as long as the student:

- Is on track to meet all other graduation requirements;
- Is unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English; and
- Has been enrolled in a U.S. school for five years or fewer.

The OAR amendment suspends the minimum English language proficiency criterion for students seeking a diploma in 2017-2018 or 2018-2019 and this suspension will sunset on August 31, 2019. This amendment does not impact the requirements in place for EL students to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of math.

As a reminder, school districts that administer Work Samples in languages other than English must ensure that the Work Samples are scored by a rater who is endorsed by the school district as proficient in the language and trained to a high degree of proficiency in scoring Work Samples.

Contact Cristen McLean at cristen.mclean@state.or.us or 503-947-5842 with questions.

Weekly Count of Administered Tests Numbers as of March 28, 2018

	STARTED	COMPLETED
ELA CAT:	11,122	10,149
ELA PT:	8,252	7,757
MATH CAT:	3,290	3,017
MATH PT:	3,163	3,091
ELPA21	57,941	56,239
Science:	50,959	49,696
Social Sciences:	807	714
TOTAL	135,534	130,663

ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING

Staff FTE and Ethnicity Validations Open April 5, 2018

The Staff FTE and Ethnicity Validations open **April 5, 2018** and will remain open through the end of the day on **Monday, April 30, 2018**. Log in to the [Achievement Data Insight \(ADI\)](#) to view these validations. This year, the Staff FTE validation includes a new column for Counselors, and the Staff Ethnicity validation includes several new columns for Ethnically and/or Linguistically Diverse Staff. 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 [Beth Blumenstein](#) at 503-947-5767.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Answers to Common Questions from the Field

QUESTION: Can students opt out of the ELPA21?

ANSWER: No. The term “opt out” refers to the legislatively created process that allows parents or adult students to opt out of Math and ELA at their discretion by submitting the state-created opt-out form. For all other assessments (including ELPA21), OAR 581-022-1910 allows parents to request that their student be exempted from testing based on disability or religion. Unlike the opt out process for Math and ELA, parent requests for exemption for all other tests must satisfy the following conditions:

- Be submitted in writing to the district (there is no standardized form)
- Include reasons for request (disability or religion)
- Propose an alternative learning activity for the student
- Is subject to district review and approval

Please note, however, that neither the opt out nor the parent-requested exemption process precludes the federal and state requirements that hold districts accountable for testing all students. This means that students who do not test because of an opt out or parent-requested exemption would be counted as non-participants in accountability calculations.