GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Practice Tests Available in Guest Mode Only Until November 7

The 2017-2018 practice tests are now available; however, while TIDE is offline for the rollover to the 2017-2018 version (to be deployed November 7), district and school level users will not be able to log in to set up proctored practice test sessions. During this time, practice tests will be accessible in guest mode only. Following the launch of TIDE on November 7, district and school level users will be able to administer proctored practice tests once they have received training and their District Test Coordinator has created their 2017-18 user account in TIDE.

2017-2018 Practice Tests Now Available

Updated practice tests for Smarter Balanced Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA), ELPA21, and OAKS Science and Social Sciences and an updated TA Training Site are now available. Practice tests can be accessed using a supported web browser or the OAKS Secure Browser. The 2017-2018 TA User Guide has also been posted in the Resources section of the OAKS Portal and on the ODE website.

These practice tests provide an opportunity for Oregon teachers and students to familiarize themselves with the navigation and functionality of the online tests, as well as with the embedded accessibility supports described in the Oregon Accessibility Manual. All test administrators, including test administrators who have used the TA Interface in previous years, should practice setting up a test session using the updated TA Training Site prior to administering an operational test.

In preparation for the new item types that ODE will be field testing on the OAKS Science test in 2017-2018, a Science ‘New Item Type Training Test’ is also available at grades 5, 8, and 11 for students to become comfortable with responding to the new item types before operational testing. This new training test is in addition to the OAKS Science Practice Test.
**TEST ADMINISTRATION**

**EXTENDED ASSESSMENT**

**Oregon Extended Assessment: Braille and Large Print Order Form**

Please use the [Braille and Large Print Order Form](#) when ordering Braille or Large Print Extended Assessments. This order form will only be processed if it is submitted and signed by the District Test Coordinator during the appropriate order window listed below. Return completed forms to Carol.Phipps@wesd.org or fax to 503-385-4716. **Order Window: November 13, 2017 to January 12, 2018**!

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

**ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING**

**Fall Membership Validation Opens November 9, 2017**

The Fall Membership validation will open at 1 p.m. on **November 9, 2017** and be open for review until **January 26, 2018**. Fall Membership is derived from the First Period Cumulative ADM collection. A [training](#) for First Period Cumulative ADM was offered on September 21, 2017.

If you have questions please contact your Regional ESD Partner or Robin Stalcup at robin.stalcup@state.or.us. If you need to edit First Period Cumulative ADM records, please let Robin know, and she can re-open the collection for you during the validation window. **No further changes will be allowed to First Period Cumulative ADM after January 26, 2018.**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Answers to Common Questions from the Field**

**QUESTION:** Why does my student not have the ability to Review on the Review/Submit screen?

**ANSWER:** The student may not have a review option because they have exceeded the pause rule. The pause rule for OAKS and the CAT component of the Smarter Balanced tests states that if a test is paused for more than 20 minutes, the student is NOT permitted to review or change any previously answered test items. The exception to this would be any items in an item group containing at least one unanswered item. The 20-minute pause rule does not apply to the performance task component of the Smarter Balanced tests or to ELPA21. For more information about pause rules, please refer to Section 6.4 of the [Test Administration Manual](#).