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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) Webinars

REPEAT

The Oregon Department of Education and Cambium Assessment (CAI) have scheduled two **optional** webinars:

- **Tuesday, November 10** from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. PT
- **Thursday, November 12** from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. PT

The same material will be covered in both trainings. While these webinars are open to any TIDE user role, you must [register](#) in advance if you want to attend a webinar. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about how to log into the webinar. Please contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) with questions.

Monthly DTC Webinars Starting Next Month REPEAT

District Test Coordinator (DTC) Webinars will begin on **December 9 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. PT** and continue on the second Wednesday of each month through June. These monthly DTC webinars are an optional (but encouraged) space for DTCs to receive reminders and participation opportunities, hear more in-depth information on specific topics relating to assessment, participate in a live question and answer session, and use as a share-space for hearing practices other districts may be using.

An e-mail will be sent out a week prior to the webinar to gather feedback from DTCs on topics they would like covered, as well as questions to address. **It is critical that DTCs submit these questions ahead of time** to ensure that ODE has the proper personnel and well thought-out answers available during the webinar.

We will not host a webinar unless we have at least 15 minutes of substantive content to discuss. This typically translates to four or more questions/topics on the agenda. We'll follow the general structure defined below:

1. Welcome and introductions (2 minutes)
2. Provide ODE updates (5 minutes)
3. Answer questions submitted by DTCs (10 minutes)

4. Present long-term vision/planning (5 minutes)
5. Clarify next steps and adjourn (2 minutes)

The times are approximate. We will try to limit the duration to 30 minutes. If we do not have sufficient content to justify a webinar, we'll answer any questions via a Q & A email or in the A&A Update, as appropriate.

Here are the following dates to [register](#) (all webinars will be held from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. PT):

- Wed, Dec 9, 2020
- Wed, Jan 13, 2021
- Wed, Feb 10, 2021
- Wed, Mar 10, 2021
- Wed, Apr 14, 2021
- Wed, May 12, 2021
- Wed, Jun 9, 2021

Reminder: Annual DTC Training Requirements REPEAT

This is a reminder that District Test Coordinators (DTCs) must [register](#) and participate in the annual test security and administration training provided by ODE. The final opportunity will be held today, November 5 from 3:45 – 5:15pm. *DTCs who do not participate in annual test security and administration training **will have their current access to the OSAS system revoked after the final ODE-facilitated webinar and may not receive important updates sent to the DTC listserv thereafter.***

Tools for Teachers Scheduled Maintenance REPEAT

The Smarter Balanced [Tools for Teachers website](#) is scheduled to undergo a planned enhancement on **Thursday, November 12 from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. Pacific**. We do not anticipate a Tools for Teachers website outage, but there is a possibility of intermittent service interruptions during this time. Smarter Balanced will be monitoring the website during the upgrade to ensure the least amount of disruption to users as possible. For more information on Tools for Teachers and the formative assessment process, please visit ODE's [Formative Assessment webpage](#). Contact [Andy Byerley](#), Mathematics Assessment Specialist, or [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA and Social Sciences Assessment Specialist, with any questions.

2020-21 Qualified Trainer Webinar Training Notice REPEAT

The Oregon Department of Education's Assessment Team and colleagues from Behavioral Research & Teaching with the University of Oregon will be providing a series of online webinar trainings for returning and new Qualified Trainers (QTs) for the Oregon Extended Assessment. Please keep in mind that educators must have been Qualified Assessors (QAs) before they are eligible to become new QTs. The links below can be used to register for the training that best matches context and availability. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

- **Thursday, November 12, 2020** 9:00 - 10:30 AM (Returning QTs only; [register](#))
- **Thursday, November 12, 2020** 3:00 - 5:00 PM (New QTs only; [register](#))
- **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** 9:00 - 10:30 AM (Returning QTs only; [register](#))

- **Wednesday, November 18, 2020 3:00 - 5:00 PM** (New QTs only; [register](#))

Educators who are planning to serve as new or returning Qualified Assessors (QAs) in 2020-21 are encouraged to contact district and/or Education Service District assessment staff for information regarding Qualified Assessor training offerings provided by current Qualified Trainers at their district or in their region. Please contact [Dan Farley](#), Director of Assessment, with any questions.

TEST ADMINISTRATION

EXTENDED ASSESSMENT

One Percent Participation Cap Reporting Projections for 2020-21

Good afternoon. We hope that this communication finds you and yours well. As was communicated last fall, ODE will be requiring districts to submit projected participation rates for our Oregon Extended Assessments, collected in the fall annually and based upon historical participation and expected trends. This process supports districts in planning for situations where they are expected to exceed ESSA's 1% participation cap for Oregon's Alternate Assessment based on Alternate Academic Achievement standards. Oregon remains ineligible to request a waiver from the reporting cap requirement, as we have not met established summative assessment participation requirements for students experiencing disabilities in recent years (though we have made some small gains).

When we developed this process and provided training and guidance around the expectation last fall, ODE anticipated that this projected participation reporting expectation would repeat annually and be due on October 15, or the nearest preceding weekday. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and the lack of assessment participation in the spring of 2020 has forced a change to this process and timeline. We are hereby communicating to all Oregon districts that ODE will carry the projections you already submitted in the fall of 2019 forward for the 2020-21 school year. As such, there is **no further action** required on your end provided that you completed your district submission last fall. The Assessment Team will be contacting a small number of districts who did not complete their submissions to request these projections in the coming weeks. If you do not hear from us, or have documentation that you submitted last year, you do not need to contact our office. Please contact [Renée House](#), Assessment Team Administrative Specialist, if you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to re-submit your projections.

Thank you for all that you are doing to support Oregon educators and students this year. We appreciate your willingness to lean in and become the solution.

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS

Interim Assessment Professional Learning Materials REPEAT

The Oregon Department of Education, Assessment team has concluded its Interim Assessment Webinar Series. To further support districts, schools, and educators, ODE has posted all professional learning resources to the [Interim Assessment Website](#) under the *Interim Professional Development Materials Folder*.

Interim Assessment Professional Learning Materials include facilitator guides with speaking notes and accompanying resources and PowerPoint presentations. Please note PowerPoint presentations are best viewed in presentation mode due to images that are inserted in the presentations and included animations. ODE is in the process of converting presentations into video formats which should be made available on the Interim Assessment Website in the coming weeks.

For additional information or clarification, please contact [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA Assessment Specialist, [Andy Byerley](#), Math Assessment Specialist, or [Noelle Gorbett](#), Science Assessment Specialist.

2020-2021 Interim Assessments Now Available REPEAT

The statewide test window for the Oregon Interim Assessment System in ELA and Math is now open for the 2020-2021 school year. Schools and districts may administer these assessments to students in-person or remotely. For specific information on how to administer these assessments remotely are available in the [Quick Guide to Administering Interim Assessments Remotely](#).

As a reminder, [Training Module 8 - Interims: Remote Administration and Test Security](#), posted by the ODE Assessment team, **is required for all educators to complete** before their District Test Coordinator (DTC) can provide user role access to the Interim Assessment System.

For additional information or clarification, please contact [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA Assessment Specialist, [Andy Byerley](#), Math Assessment Specialist, or [Noelle Gorbett](#), Science Assessment Specialist.

SCIENCE

2020-2021 Science Interim Assessments REPEAT

Science Interim Assessments are now available for purchase for the 2020-2021 school year. Purchases can be made by district, or for specific schools within a district. The Science Interim Assessments are aligned to the NGSS Science content standards and include the full array of accessibility resources used for the OSAS Science Assessment, including TTS, Spanish translation, and Braille. For more information about the Science Interim Assessments, please refer to the [Science Interim Assessments Information Sheet](#).

The Science Interim Assessments are offered at \$4.95 per enrolled students in grades 5, 8, and 11. Students in grades 3 through high school are permitted to utilize the assessment bank as deemed appropriate by the school and educator.

Districts or schools interested in purchasing the Science Interim Assessments for 2020-2021, please contact [Margaux Nielsen](#) or [Noelle Gorbett](#) for additional information or questions.