

Informal DTC Webinar: Q&A Session – December 14, 2016

General Questions

Q: I saw a date somewhere that had a January date for distribution of Opt-Out forms. Is that not true?

- As stated in Section 5.3 of the Test Administration Manual, districts and public charter schools must provide parents and adult students with the ODE-developed 30-day notice and opt-out (available at <http://oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Pages/Assessment-Administration-Resources.aspx>) by **January 7, 2017**. Districts may communicate with parents using existing communication protocols, including but not limited to fall registration materials, parent conferences, electronic media, or letters home.

Q: Would you be able to go over items, stimuli, etc.? I read about it but really want to clarify and make sure I understand the difference. There's probably a PDF resource right?

- Stimuli refers to content on the left side of a split screen. For English language arts, this is almost always a reading passage. For math this may be a problem or graph on the left side of the split screen. If you are unsure of the stimuli when referring to text-to-speech, ODE highly encourages users to turn it on and off in the practice test to note the difference for students.

Q: With the new ODE website, will the opt-out form links change as well?

- Yes, they are located on the [Assessment Administration webpage](#) under "Forms". The supplemental communication materials are located on the [Assessment Administration Resources webpage](#) under "Communications".

Smarter Balanced

Q: Can School Level Test windows be used to block Juniors from Smarter Balanced but allow Seniors to test for graduation purposes?

- School level test windows cannot be set by grade for 2016-17. However, ODE is pursuing this option with AIR for future years. Once the statewide test window opens, one option for districts is to use the Restrict Students feature in TIDE to block 11th graders from testing until the start of the school-level test window.

Q: Last year, all student test results began coming back to us 3 weeks after students had completed both tests in one subject beginning March 28th. Do we have a timeline on when scoring will begin this year?

- The process will begin at around the same time this year, but we do not have a specific date. The three-week turnaround time is based on the PT being the last segment completed and then hand-scored. If the PT is completed and scored first, and the CAT has few or no hand-scored items, the turnaround time will be much shorter and could even be the next day.

Q: If an IEP student has ALL items and stimuli read to them in their ELA tests and passages, does a passing score count toward Essential Skills even though they didn't read it for themselves?

- Yes, this is an allowable accommodation in the Oregon Accessibility Manual and is not considered a modification.

ELPA21

Q: Will you please clarify which devices can be used for ELPA21?

- All devices with the exception of Android tablets are compatible with ELPA21. For more information about operating systems on devices, see the [Oregon Support Plan](#).

Q: So will there not be any ELPA domain exemptions then this year because of adaptive testing?

- Consistent with prior years, students may be exempted from up to three domains if the domain exemption(s) is noted in the student's IEP. As with Oregon's previous ELPA, the test will be administered as a single, segmented test, with the listening, reading, and writing domains presented in one combined segment followed by the speaking domain segment. Items from any exempted domain will not be presented to the student.

Q: For the ELPA test, what is the official requirement for TAs? Does an ELPA TA need some type of official Spanish speaking certification?

- No, there is no requirement that ELPA21 TAs possess Spanish certification. However, if a student requires the directions to be provided in Spanish, a Spanish-speaking TA will be necessary.