

## DTC Webinar Q&A – {February 12, 2025}

DTC Webinar recordings are posted on the [Test Administration Resources webpage](#) under DTC Webinars.

### Opt-Out and Parent Requests for Exemption

1. If a student opts out of English Language Arts (ELA) or Math, and an alternative assignment is provided, can the alternative assignment be graded?
  - a. The alternative activity provided cannot be graded.
  - b. Section 5.4 (pg. 51) of the Test Administration Manual (TAM), “Providing for Students Who Are Not Testing” states, “ODE acknowledges that providing alternative activities for non-testing students can sometimes present a challenge for districts. The activity should not be related to the test being given. For example, students who finish early may work on assignments for unrelated subjects or read a book.”
2. What about a similar situation in which a parent exempts a student from Science or English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) testing for reasons of religion or disability? Can the replacement learning activity chosen to replace testing be graded?
  - a. No.
  - b. The alternative learning activity is intended to serve the same purpose as the learning activity which it is replacing. In this case, it would be for students to demonstrate their learning on the OR state-adopted Science or ELP standards. Just as the test is not graded or incorporated into a grade, the alternative assignment can also not be graded or incorporated into a grade.
3. Does the Opt-Out Policy apply to the Oregon Statewide Assessment System (OSAS) Interim Assessments?
  - a. The opt-out policy only applies to the OSAS ELA and Math Summative Assessments. The OSAS Interim Assessments are part of the district's local assessment system to collect evidence of student learning and guide instruction. Therefore the opt-out policy does not apply to the OSAS Interim Assessments.
4. If families opt out of Oregon Extended (ORExt) testing, should that be communicated to ESD Partners (like standard opt-outs)?
  - a. There is no need to inform your ESD Partner if entering codes into the Assessment Records Updating Application (ARUA) or modifying the Opt-Out

- field for individual students in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE).
  - b. Only ESD Partners have the ability to batch upload modifications to the Opt-Out field in TIDE, so sending such a request to the ESD Partner will inform them by default.
5. Is "reading a book" a satisfactory replacement learning activity when parents request exemption from testing for reasons of religion or disability?
- a. Any approved alternative learning activity needs to meet the learning objectives of the exempted activity. It is not clear if "reading a book" meets that standard. An example that could meet the requirement would be, "student will read book X, which is an informational text covering the same content from which they are being exempted". The final decision of whether to approve a suggested alternative learning activity is made by the district.
6. If a district chooses to create a form that encapsulates the parent request for exemption process, would it be appropriate to share that form with other districts?
- a. Districts can share ideas with each other. ODE will not choose a district exemplar and share that form statewide, as this would constitute tacit endorsement.
  - b. Note that even if a form developed by another district includes all requirements as listed in the Test Administration Manual, there should still be a local process for how parent requests for exemption are received, processed, reviewed, and how parents are informed of the outcome.
7. If a student does not take ELPA due to a parent request for exemption for reasons of disability or religion, does that count as participating for the district?
- a. No. A student exempted from ELPA testing via the parent requests for exemption process counts as a non-participant.

## **ORExt**

8. Can QTCs confirm/verify QAs?
- a. Yes, Qualified Test Coordinators can credential verify Qualified Assessors. However, the DTC will need to credential verify the QTC's account before the QTC will have access to the Admin tab and other district user accounts.
9. Where do I find results from the Oregon Extended assessments?
- a. Use the ODE applications (Achievement Data Insight and Accountability Warehouse Extract).

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10. Should districts block the general ELA and Math summative tests in TIDE for students taking the ORExt ELA and Math summative tests?
    - a. Yes, we do recommend that you block these students in TIDE so they do not inadvertently start the wrong test.

### OSAS Platform (TIDE, CRS)

11. Is there a resource that shows step by step instructions for logging in and creating a test session (with screenshots)?
  - a. We recommend beginning with the [Test Administrator User Guide](#).
12. What is the current maximum time limit for setting the Student Education Equity Development (SEED) window in TIDE?
  - a. The assignment window is currently (2/13/25) set up for a maximum of 110 days. ODE requested that the settings be changed to allow for the maximum number of days that the survey is open (124 days). The vendor confirmed that the settings will be changed by Friday, February 21, 2025.

### Other

13. When was Module 11 (Crisis Alert training) created? Is it required for any role?
  - a. Module 11 was posted at the end of December 2024. Module 11 is optional for all roles.
14. If we have classrooms that have general test-taking resources on the walls, can those stay posted, or do they need to come down?
  - a. ODE recommends such resources be covered or removed.

### SEED

15. If a TA administers SEED via the secure browser (OSAS portal), does TA need to approve survey takers?
  - a. Yes. In the secure OSAS portal in-person format, the TA approves survey takers. It is the same process as approving students logged in to take one of the summative tests.
16. Do accommodations and supports need to be entered specifically for the SEED Survey, or will these carry over from other tests (ELA/Math and Science) that the students have taken?
  - a. The SEED Survey has its own independent column of settings in TIDE. Accessibility supports for the SEED Survey will need to be set or uploaded into TIDE prior to the student starting the SEED Survey, regardless of whether the student is using the secure browser or the assignment feature.

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## Helpful Links:

- [DTC Designation Form](#)
- [Superintendent Approval Fillable Form](#)
- [Accountability Training](#)
- [Assessment Training Materials](#)
- [AA Update](#) page, with archives and subscription link
- [DTC Roadmap](#)
- [Interim Assessment](#) resources and training materials
- [Nationally-Normed College Entrance Practice Test](#) page
- ODE's Equitable Grading Practices [webpage](#) and [email](#)
- [OSAS Portal](#) (includes testing schedule)
- [SEED Survey](#)
- [Test Administration](#) page (Oregon Accessibility Manual and Test Administration Manual)
- [Test Administration Resources](#) page (Accessibility Supports, RARP, DTC Webinar Resources)