



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 18, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Principals, Teachers, School Staff
From: Linda P. Eno, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Academics and Performance

Update Regarding State Assessment Administration

This memo provides clarifications and an update regarding the spring 2019 administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics.

Spring 2019 Assessment Administration

The following statewide assessments will **continue as planned**¹ (see [Statewide Assessments Testing Schedule 2018-2019](#)):

- The NJSLA-ELA in grades 3 through 10;
- The NJSLA-Mathematics 3 through 10, including the end-of-course assessments (Algebra I, II and Geometry);
- The [NJSLA-Science](#) administration (including grade 11);
- The Dynamic Learning Maps administration (including grade 11 and for all subjects); and
- [ACCESS for ELLs](#) (in kindergarten through grade 12).

Please note the following change to the spring assessment schedule: The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), in consultation with the State Board of Education, will **not** require districts to administer end-of-course statewide assessments in **ELA and mathematics** to students in grade 11.

Note: According to the federal *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, any student who entered the United States after June 1 of the prior school year, including high school students, is exempt from taking the NJSLA-ELA.

How to Unassign Students from an Assessment Through a Student Registration Delete Import

Districts should manually unassign 11th grade students previously registered for ELA 11 or an end-of-course mathematics assessment, and any students assigned the wrong assessment, by following the instructions at the end of this memo. If districts are planning to unassign students, please do so as soon as possible.

Graduation Assessment Requirements: Classes of 2019 and 2020

A [recent court order](#) provided a clear path for students in the Classes of 2019 and 2020 to meet New Jersey's graduation assessment requirements. Students graduating as members of the Classes of 2019 and 2020 can meet [graduation assessment requirements](#) in ELA and mathematics through any of the three following pathways:

- (1) Achieve passing scores on high school level NJSLA/PARCC assessments; **or**
- (2) Achieve scores defined in the graduation assessment requirements chart (linked above) on alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; **or**
- (3) Submit, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the NJDOE.

¹ For questions regarding the 2019 spring administration of statewide assessments (NJSLA and DLM), reach out to the NJDOE's Office of Assessment at assessment@doe.nj.gov or (609) 376-3960. For questions regarding ACCESS for ELLs, contact the NJDOE's Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at ell@doe.nj.gov or (609) 376-9080.

Note: Special Education students, whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies, will continue to follow the graduation assessment requirements set forth in their IEPs.

Graduation Assessment Requirements: Classes of 2021 and Beyond

The NJDOE will continue to work with the State Board of Education to address, through the regulatory process, the Appellate Division's December 31, 2018, decision. The NJDOE will address this issue in a thoughtful yet expeditious manner and is committed to ensuring all students have a clear understanding of their graduation assessment requirements moving forward.

Connections Between State Assessment and Accountability

As required by state and federal law, and as set forth in the [New Jersey State Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\) Plan](#), the NJDOE will continue to administer state ELA and mathematics assessments to all students in grades 3 through 10 in spring 2019.

As a state agency, the NJDOE is responsible for upholding *ESSA*, which sets requirements that the state must:

- Ensure 95% of students in all schools across the state are assessed;
- Measure and report school performance; and
- Provide support to the schools that need the most help.

The NJDOE also uses assessment as a measure of district quality through New Jersey's state accountability system, the Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC).

Contact Information

Any district with questions regarding the 2019 spring administration of state assessments should reach out to assessment@doe.nj.gov or (609) 376-3960.

How to Unassign Students from a Test Through a Student Registration Delete Import

Complete the following steps for using a Student Registration Delete file to remove tests assignments:

1. Export the Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) file from the PearsonAccess^{next} (PAN) online portal. For additional information on how to export and import files into PAN, please visit Pearson's [Import and Export Data](#) support page.
2. Download and open the exported SR/PNP file. Each row represents a test assignment for a student record. Use a sort or filter to identify test assignments with "ELA11", "ALG01", "ALG02", and/or "GEO01" test codes (column AW) that you want to remove. Since this file will be used to delete test assignments, make sure to **include** test assignments that you want to **delete** and **exclude** test assignments you want to **keep**. Save the file.
3. Import this file as a Student Registration Delete in PAN.
4. Verify test assignments are removed in the PAN user interface or by exporting a new SR/PNP file.

When the file processes, PAN will read each record (row) and remove the test assignment from the student record. If a student has all test assignments removed via a Student Registration Delete import, then registration and enrollment under the administration will also be removed.

For questions, contact Pearson Customer Support at (888) 705-9416, Monday to Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner of
Education
NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group