

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date:June 4, 2025To:Local Educational Agency Leads, Directors of Approved Private Schools for Students<br/>with DisabilitiesRoute To:District Test Coordinators, District Technology Coordinators, School Test<br/>CoordinatorsFrom:Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner<br/>Division of Teaching and Learning Services

# Summer 2025 New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment Key Dates and Information

This memorandum provides local educational agencies (LEAs) and approved private schools for students with disabilities (APSSDs) with key dates and information for the summer 2025 administration of the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA).

# Participation in the NJGPA Summer Administration

The summer NJGPA will be administered in person from **July 21 through July 25, 2025**. Make-up testing will be administered in person from **July 28 through July 31, 2025**. The summer administration of NJGPA provides a retake or initial testing opportunity for students in the class of 2026 and summer graduates in the class of 2025. LEAs and APSSDs must offer targeted support prior to any student retaking one or both components of the assessment. Students who are eligible to participate in the summer administration of NJGPA include:

- Students who took the NJGPA during a previous administration but did not meet the minimum 725 cut-score on one or both components of the assessment.
- Students who have not yet taken one or both components of the NJGPA previously must do so in order to meet the graduation assessment requirement and/or access alternative pathways available to their graduating class. This includes but is not limited:
  - Multilingual learners who utilized the one-time English language arts (ELA) exemption during their first attempt at the NJGPA;
  - $\circ$  Students who were absent from school on all testing dates or unable to test due to medical and/or other reasons;
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Students who enrolled in New Jersey public schools after the administration window closed; and
  - Students who were tenth graders based on credit status at the time of spring testing but attained enough credits to transition to twelfth grade credit status at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 regular school year.

**Please note** that students, including multilingual learners who are newly enrolled in a U.S. school, must receive a valid score in each component of the NJGPA prior to accessing the alternative pathways available to their graduating class for that specific component. Class of 2025 summer graduates (students expected to graduate by August 31, 2025) who have not yet received a valid

score in one or both components of the NJGPA **must** participate in the summer NJGPA administration.

Please see the <u>Graduation Assessment Requirements</u> webpage for more information about pathways for class of 2025 summer graduates. Please see the March 5, 2025 broadcast, <u>Information Regarding the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) Cut Scores for</u> <u>the Class of 2026, for information related to Chapter 8 revisions and graduation assessment</u> pathways available to students beyond the class of 2025.

### Training, Manuals, and Resources

District Test and Technology Coordinators (DTCs) should visit the <u>New Jersey Assessments</u> <u>Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources** for access to the training materials, test coordinator and test administrator manuals, and other associated resources that were posted for the spring 2025 administration. Prior to each administration, DTCs are required to familiarize themselves with the responsibilities associated with their roles, including training test administrators (TAs) on the proper administration of state assessments and ensuring the appropriate technology requirements are in place.

Please visit the NJGPA webpage on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> website for additional information such as test content and other resources.

#### Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) Data Upload

For the summer administration, LEAs and APSSDs must import student data directly to the <u>PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup></u> (PAN) platform. The initial upload window for the summer administration will open on **June 18, 2025**. LEAs and APSSDs may continue to make updates to student data prior to and throughout the testing window until the data clean-up window closes on **August 7, 2025**. Students taking the paper-based versions of the assessments must be included in the student registration upload.

Please take note of the following information:

- Students must be registered under the NJGPA-ELA/Math Summer 2025 scope in PAN.
- For students who attend an out-of-district placement, the testing site, not the accountable school, must register out-of-district students in PAN. It is essential that the correct Accountable District Code and Accountable School Code are used, which will be different from the Testing Site District Code and the Testing Site School Code.
- Charter schools, renaissance school projects, choice schools, and vocational-technical schools (for students who attend full time) are the accountable districts and accountable schools for their students.

# Paper Test Materials

All paper-based test materials must be ordered through the additional orders process, which will begin on **July 1, 2025** and end on **July 25, 2025**. After an additional order has been reviewed and approved, it will take approximately four to five business days for materials to be delivered.

Tracking information can be found in PAN once materials have been shipped. LEAs and APSSDs must specify the exact number of individual test kits required.

Answer documents are no longer used for paper-based testing. Instead, students will write their answers in their test booklet. LEAs and APSSDs will set up a transcription session in PAN and transcribe these student responses directly into TestNav by the established deadline. Additional guidance and instructions for the handling of physical test materials and the transcription of student responses are included in the following resources located on the <u>New Jersey Assessments</u> <u>Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources**:

- 2025 Spring Test Coordinator Manual
- 2025 Spring Test Administrator Manual
- NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Test Procedures (located under Testing Resources)

Accommodated Paper Test-Procedures - The NJGPA is a computer-based assessment, and most students should take the assessment on a computer. Students who are unable to use a computer based on a need documented in a valid Section 504 Plan, Individualized Education Program (IEP), or as part of the accommodations defined for multilingual learners will take the assessment using paper and pencil. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will review the SR/PNP uploads and may contact LEAs and APSSDs to verify the accuracy of the student counts and test delivery modes if anomalies are detected. For additional guidance on paper-based testing, please refer to Appendix A: Accessibility Features and Accommodations for Students Taking the Paper-Based NJSLA and NJGPA which can be found on the New Jersey Assessments Resource Center under Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Accessibility Features and Accommodations (AF&A) Resources > Resources.

Homebound Students Test Procedures- Students receiving homebound instruction may be tested using computer-based assessments or paper-based assessments. The mode of testing should be based on individual student needs. Computer-based assessments must be administered using a district-supplied portable electronic device and mobile hotspot. Please review the NJSLA/NJGPA Homebound Test Administration Procedures document for additional information which can be found on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources.** LEAs are encouraged to contact the appropriate state assessment coordinator with questions regarding testing students on homebound/bedside instruction.

For more information regarding the summer 2025 NJGPA administration key dates, please review the complete list of summer 2025 NJGPA key dates found on the <u>NJSLA/NJGPA Resources</u> webpage under the heading **Testing Schedule and Key Dates**.

# **Tutorials and Practice Tests**

LEAs and APSSDs are strongly encouraged to use the tutorials and practice tests available on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources**. Tutorials familiarize students and educators with the item types, testing tools, accessibility features, accommodations, and test format and/or navigation of TestNav (Computer-Based Testing only) that will be used for

the NJGPA. Practice tests provide an opportunity for students to become familiar with the types of items and to respond to test questions similar to the questions students will be asked to answer on each component of the NJGPA. Section 3.5 Schedule Tutorials and Practice Tests of the NJSLA/NJGPA 2025 Spring Test Coordinator Manual will include additional information related to the use of tutorials and practice tests prior to testing.

#### Fall NJGPA 2025 Testing Dates

For future planning purposes, the fall 2025 NJGPA will be administered in person from October 6 through October 10, 2025. Make-up testing will be administered from October 14 through October 17, 2025. Additional information about the fall 2025 NJGPA administration will be shared in a future broadcast.

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions regarding the summer NJGPA administration, please contact the Office of Assessments at (609) 376-3960 or <u>assessment@doe.nj.gov</u>.

#### **Additional Resources**

- <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u>
- <u>PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> Online Support</u>
- c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group