



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: February 6, 2026  
 To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities  
 Route To: District Technology Coordinators, District Testing Coordinators, School Testing Coordinators  
 From: Jordan Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner  
 Division of Teaching and Learning Services

**NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A English Language Arts and Mathematics Unit Testing Times and Administration, Blueprints, and Outreach**

We appreciate the extensive work and commitment that districts have demonstrated this year in implementing the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments–Adaptive (NJSLA-A) and the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment–Adaptive (NJGPA-A). Transitioning to a new assessment model requires significant planning and coordination, and we recognize the demands this has placed on your teams.

Concurrent with the fall administration of the NJSLA-A and the NJGPA-A, we conducted a review of how these assessments could be administered most effectively. Based on this review, we made changes to the testing times and administration procedures. Although the unit testing times for the NJSLA-Science remain the same as the Spring 2025 administration, NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A unit testing times differ from the Spring 2025 administration of the NJSLA and NJGPA.

This communication is meant to provide Local Educational Agencies and Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities with information for scheduling of the Spring 2026 administration of the NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A. Additional scheduling guidance will be addressed in the training sessions announced in the [January 21, 2026 Broadcast](#). As a reminder, the Spring 2026 administration of the NJGPA-A is scheduled for March 16, 2026 through March 20, 2026, with make-ups March 23, 2026 through March 27, 2026. NJSLA-A (including ELA-Reading, ELA-Writing, and Mathematics) and NJSLA-Science are scheduled for April 27, 2026 through May 22, 2026, with make-ups May 26, 2026 through May 29, 2026. Please refer to the [Statewide Assessment Testing Schedule](#) for the full assessment calendar.

**Unit Test Times for ELA and Mathematics**

Both the NJSLA-A and the NJGPA-A consist of three (3) units. One (1) unit of ELA-Reading, one (1) unit of ELA-Writing, and one (1) unit of Mathematics.

*Table 1: NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A Unit Test Times for ELA and Mathematics*

Unit	Session 1	Session 2	Total Test Time
<b>ELA-Reading</b>	75 minutes	75 minutes	150 minutes
<b>ELA-Writing</b>	90 minutes	N/A	90 minutes
<b>Mathematics</b>	75 minutes	75 minutes	150 minutes

The above unit/session times do not include the recommended 25 to 30 minutes for logging students on, reading directions to students from the test administrator script, and logging students off.

The unit test times are also available on the [NJSLA-Adaptive and NJGPA-Adaptive](#) webpage, under the heading Statewide Assessments Unit Testing Times for NJSLA-NJGPA-A.

### **Administration and Scheduling**

For both the NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A programs, a maximum of one unit of testing, which includes two sessions, may be administered per day. The ELA-Reading unit and the Mathematics unit will be administered in two (2) 75-minute sessions, while the ELA-Writing unit will be administered in a single 90-minute session. The ELA-Reading and Mathematics units may be administered in one of three ways:

- The two sessions are administered in the same day back-to-back with a supervised 10-minute break between sessions;
- The two sessions are administered in the same day with an extended break (e.g., lunch break) between sessions; or
- The two sessions are administered over two days.

As mentioned above, more detailed information regarding the administration of the assessments will be provided in the upcoming Mandatory Training for Spring 2026 and please refer to the resources available at the [New Jersey Assessments Portal](#) website.

### **Blueprints**

The blueprints for the NJGPA-A and NJSLA-A provide information on the structure and content of the assessments. To view the blueprints for ELA and Mathematics, please refer to the [NJSLA-Adaptive and NJGPA-Adaptive](#) webpage under the heading *Test Design and Content Information*.

### **Leadership Support**

In addition to the training sessions announced in the [January 21, 2026 Broadcast](#), a series of regional meetings are planned for the coming weeks. These sessions will provide district leaders the opportunity to engage with representatives from the New Jersey Department of Education and Cambium Assessment, Inc., our New Jersey NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A provider.

### **Contact Information**

For questions, please contact the Office of Assessments at (609) 376-3960 or [assessment@doe.nj.gov](mailto:assessment@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
NJDOE Staffs  
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
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