

New Jersey Department of Education



Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Cut Score Update

Office of Assessments

Division of Teaching and Learning Services





Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Overview



- DLM is used as the State's alternate assessment for students with the most significant intellectual disabilities, as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.
- DLM is administered in grades 3–8 and 11 to eligible students, who meet the participation guidelines, in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.
- DLM is a **computer-adaptive assessment** based on DLM's Essential Elements that is personalized to the needs of each student for this special population.
- New Jersey is a founding member of the DLM consortium since it was established in 2010. The first DLM ELA and mathematics assessments were administered in the 2014-2015 school year.





Changes to the assessments



- The DLM consortium reduced the number of topics within the assessment to allow for a deeper dive into each topic. This will provide more actionable data to support students in their learning process.
- Reduce the cut score proportionally in relation to the reduction in the total possible score available.
- The adjustments to the cut scores were done to maintain the rigor established with the initial design of the assessment.



Important Points



- NJ has consistently adopted DLM cut scores, as it is the expectation that states within the consortium will utilize the established cut scores.
- The cut score adjustment reflects the proportional adjustment of the assessment topics within each grade and subject.
- The constructs are considered constant on the updated topics; therefore, performance level distributions are expected to be consistent.
- The cut score adjustment will provide more informative reports to support students in their learning process.

Cut Scores — ELA



Grade	Emerging & Approaching Original	Emerging & Approaching Adjusted	Approaching & Target Original	Approaching & Target Adjusted	Target & Advanced Original	Target & Advanced Adjusted
3	36	22	50	31	71	44
4	38	23	57	37	75	49
5	35	21	53	33	76	45
6	27	21	46	33	65	45
7	27	18	52	37	73	53
8	23	18	48	35	72	54
9	20	17	48	39	68	55
10	17	15	47	38	72	59
11	18	15	47	39	70	58



Cut Scores — Mathematics



Grade	Emerging & Approaching Original	Emerging & Approaching Adjusted	Approaching & Target Original	Approaching & Target Adjusted	Target & Advanced Original	Target & Advanced Adjusted
3	12	9	21	15	37	27
4	20	10	30	17	56	30
5	15	10	32	17	48	25
6	13	8	28	18	38	24
7	19	9	37	19	53	26
8	17	9	40	23	53	30
9	10	7	21	20	33	27
10	8	8	21	19	36	32
11	8	6	18	14	38	25





Thank You!



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