



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

June 19, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
 State Superintendent of Education
RE: Student Assessment Updates

The dates for the 2020-2021 statewide assessment program were provided in a memorandum dated December 4, 2019. Due to COVID-19, adjustments have been made to selected assessments for the 2020-2021 school year, including additional options for students who did not complete testing in 2019-2020. For your reference, a few updates and reminders are included in this memo.

- On April 29, 2020, you received a memorandum regarding a *Provisional Identification Plan for Potential English Learner Students* to identify potential English learner students that were enrolling during the closure of schools. This plan will be used as the **remote** option for students who either enroll during extended school closures or for students who are participating in remote learning. The process does not replace the formal identification process when face-to-face screening is possible. Once face-to-face school resumes, and as soon as possible, formal screening with the *WIDA Screener Online* or *Kindergarten W-APT* must take place for any student who has been given provisional English learner (EL) status.
- In an effort to ensure that every EL student is able to participate on *ACCESS for ELLs* or *Alternate ACCESS for ELLs*, a continuing administration window is scheduled for September 1-September 25, 2020. This opportunity is for those EL students who either did not start testing or complete testing during the 2019-2020 school year.
- As a reminder, the *ACT with Writing* fall options are listed below in the following chart:

| ACT Make-Up Testing from Spring 2020 <u>Paper Only</u> 2020-2021 12th graders (Grade 12 students who did not test in 11th grade during March, June, or July 2020 due to COVID-19) | |
|---|--|
| September 22 | Standard Time Test Date |
| September 22 - October 2 | Accommodations/Supports Window |
| October 6 | Make-Up Test Date |
| October 6 – 12 | Make-Up Accommodations/Supports Window |
| October 24 | National Test Date Voucher |

- Again, in the 2020-2021 school year, *ACT WorkKeys* will remain as an optional assessment. Even though this assessment is optional, it may be used as a College and Career Readiness (CCR) Indicator. Local education agencies (LEAs) will have the option to administer *ACT WorkKeys* to all students in Grade 12 or administer only to selected Grade 12 students. A retest opportunity will be offered in the spring for those students who do not meet the benchmark in the fall.

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5. *ACT with Writing* will continue to be used as the accountability measurement for high school. Beginning in 2020-2021, **new** Alabama ACT benchmarks will be utilized that incorporate math, English language arts (English, reading, and writing), and science.

| Alabama ACT Benchmarks 2020-2021 | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Subject | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 |
| ELA | 1-13 | 14-18 | 19-22 | 23-36 |
| Math | 1-15 | 16-18 | 19-24 | 25-36 |
| Science | 1-15 | 16-19 | 20-25 | 26-36 |

6. *Scantron Performance Series* will once again be provided as a formative assessment. Utilizing *Scantron Performance Series* and/or *Achievement Series* in a school or classroom will be the decision of the LEA, but the cost will be borne by the Alabama State Department of Education. Scantron is also offering remote options for the upcoming fall.

If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Maggie Hicks, Student Assessment Section, at (334) 694-4817 or by email at mhicks@alsde.edu.

EGM/MH

Attachments

cc: System Test Coordinators

FY20-2092

2020-2021 TESTING DATES

| <u>Tests</u> | <u>Testing Dates (Windows)</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <i>PreACT</i> (Grade 10) | September 28 – October 16, 2020 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing – Initial (Grade 12) | October 7, 2020 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports – Initial..... | October 7-9, and 12-16, 2020 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Online Testing..... | October 1 – November 13, 2020 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing - Make-Up..... | October 28, 2020 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing – Make-Up with Accommodations/Supports..... | October 28 – November 3, 2020 |
| <i>NAEP</i> (Selected Schools and Grades Only) | January 25 – March 12, 2021 |
| <i>PreACT - Emergency Testing Option</i> | February 8-19, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys Emergency</i> Paper Testing Option | February 24, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys Emergency</i> Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports | February 24 – March 5, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys Emergency</i> Online Testing | February 1 – March 5, 2021 |
| <i>NAEP</i> (17 Year Old Long-Term Trend – Selected Schools) | March – May, 2021 |
| <i>ACCESS for ELLs</i> (Online)..... | January 19 – March 19, 2021 |
| <i>Alternate ACCESS for ELLs</i> | January 19 – March 19, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Paper Testing – Initial (Grade 11) | March 9, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports – Initial..... | March 9-12 & March 15-19, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Online Testing – Initial | March 9-11 & 16-18, 2021 |
| <i>ACAP Alternate</i> (Grades 2-8, 10, and 11) | March 1 - April 9, 2021 |
| <i>ACAP Summative</i> (Grades 2-8) | March 29 – April 30, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Paper Testing – Make-up..... | April 6, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports – Make-up | April 6-9 & 12-16, 2021 |
| <i>ACT with Writing</i> Online Testing – Make-up..... | April 6-8 & 13-15, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing – Retest Option | April 14, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports – Retest Option..... | April 14-16 & 19-20, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Online Testing – Retest Option..... | April 14-16 & 19-20, 2021 |

Dates are Subject to Change

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| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Emergency Online Testing Option..... | February 1 – March 5, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Retest Paper Testing Option | April 14, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Retest Paper Testing with Accommodations/Supports Option..... | April 14-16 & 19-20, 2021 |
| <i>ACT WorkKeys</i> Retest Online Testing Option..... | April 14-16 & 19-20, 2021 |
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