BEDS 2018 Technology Questions and Guidance

Question 1: Does your school currently have sufficient broadband access, as measured during peak usage times, to meet the current needs of your school for instruction, learning, and assessment?

Question 1 Guidance
This question relates to current needs only. The response to this question should indicate if the school's current broadband capacity (bandwidth) meets current needs of teaching, learning, and computer-based assessment initiatives. Schools should use Peak Usage to determine if needs are being met.

Question 2: Does your school have reliable broadband access to meet the current needs of your school for instruction, learning and assessment?

Question 2 Guidance
This question relates to current needs only. The response to this question should indicate if the school does or does not experience unscheduled interruptions in broadband service that negatively impact teaching, learning, and/or computer-based assessment initiatives.

Question 3: Does your school have sufficient network infrastructure and WiFi to meet current needs, such as a large-scale technology initiative (e.g. 1:1, BYOD or Computer-based Testing for all students in grades 3-8)?

Question 3 Guidance
This question relates to current needs only. The response to this question should indicate if a lack of sufficient network infrastructure, such as WiFi access, negatively impacts the ability of the school to meet current district needs. To determine if Internet speed slow-down, or lack of access to the Internet, is caused by insufficient network infrastructure or insufficient WiFi, consult your local IT department, your local RIC, your district Internet service provider, or a subject matter expert for assistance.

Question 4: Does your school currently have sufficient broadband capacity available to meet projected future needs, such as the implementation of a large-scale technology initiative (e.g. 1:1, BYOD, or Computer Based Testing for all students in grades 3-8)?

Question 4 Guidance
This question relates to projected future needs only. The response to this question should indicate if the current broadband capacity will or will not impact future teaching, learning, and computer-based assessment initiatives. If your school will need additional broadband capacity to meet future tech initiatives, answer no.

Question 5: Does your school currently have sufficient network infrastructure (including WiFi), to meet projected future needs, such as implementation of a large-scale technology initiative (e.g. 1:1, BYOD, or Computer Based Testing for all students in grades 3-8)?

Question 5 Guidance
This question relates to projected future needs only. The response to this question should indicate if the current network infrastructure is sufficient to avoid Internet speed slow-downs or unscheduled interruptions based on projected future technology initiatives, large increases in enrollment, etc.

Question 6: Does your school administer the NYS Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and math tests? Yes/No.

Question 6 Guidance: Please indicate whether your school administers any of the NYS Grades 3-8 English Language Arts or Math tests.

Question 7: Please fill out the number of district-owned computer devices in your school, used for instruction and learning, that fall into the categories below. Each row indicates a type of devices (laptops, desktops, full-sized tablets, Chromebooks, etc.), the age of the devices (0-4 years, 5+ years), and whether or not you intend to use the devices for Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Computer-Based Testing during the upcoming spring operational or field-testing administration.

Device, Age, CBT Usage	Number of Devices	Hidden if "No" for Q6
Windows Laptop, 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Laptop, 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Windows Laptop, 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Laptop, 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Windows Tablet (or 2 in 1), 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Tablet (or 2 in 1), 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Windows Tablet (or 2 in 1), 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Tablet (or 2 in 1), 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Windows Desktop, 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Desktop, 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Windows Desktop, 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Windows Desktop, 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
MacBook, 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
MacBook, 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
MacBook, 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
MacBook, 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Mac Desktop, 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X

Device, Age, CBT Usage	Number of Devices	Hidden if "No" for Q6
Mac Desktop, 0-4 years, NOT Use Intended d for CBT	0	
Mac Desktop, 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Mac Desktop, 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
iPad/iPad Pro: Minimum 9.7", 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
iPad/iPad Pro: Minimum 9.7", 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
iPad/iPad Pro: Minimum 9.7", 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
iPad/iPad Pro: Minimum 9.7", 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Chromebook, 0-4 years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Chromebook, 0-4 years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Chromebook, 5+ years, Intended for CBT	0	X
Chromebook, 5+ years, NOT Intended for CBT	0	
Other, 0-4 years	0	
Other, 5+ years	0	

Question 7 Guidance
This question relates to current status only.

The default response for column 2 (Number of Devices) is zero. If you do not enter a quantity into the Number of Devices column, the assumption is that the school does not have any devices that match the description for that row.

This number should only reflect district-owned devices used by teachers and students for instruction and learning, including devices that remain at school and devices that are allowed to be taken home. Do not include district-owned devices used for purposes other than instruction and learning.

The "other" rows should be a count of all computer devices used for instruction and learning that do not match one of the descriptions in the rows above. Do not include interactive furnishings (whiteboards, tables), cameras (document, video, etc.), projectors, printers (3D, traditional), AR/VR equipment, graphing calculators, robotics peripherals, kits, microscopes, assistive technology, etc.

Key Definitions

Broadband: High-speed Internet. Broadband includes DSL, Cable Modem, Fiber, Wireless, Satellite, and Broadband over Powerlines (BPL). Dial-up internet is not broadband.

Capacity: Sometimes referred to as bandwidth. The amount of data that can be transmitted in a given amount of time (usually per second).

Network Infrastructure: The hardware (and some, non-instructional software) that makes up the school's network. It may include switches, wireless access points, wiring, cabling, etc.

Peak Usage: The period of time (time of day, or an event such as computer-based testing) when the most people are accessing the internet at the same time and are using the most bandwidth.

Reliable: Consistent Internet access is available to staff and students for the clear majority of instructional time with only limited unscheduled outages. If the internet goes down every time there is inclement weather, for instance, the connection would not be considered reliable.

Sufficient: Enough to meet instructional and learning needs. A school with a 1:1 initiative and high-use of streaming media will have very different needs than a school with little to no technology available for student use. Sufficiency must be determined at the school level.

Other Note

Computer-based Testing: A school does *not* have to be able to conduct computer-based testing of *all* grades and subjects at the same time to be considered as having sufficient technology resources for conducting computer-based testing. If you have questions about your school's readiness, or about resources that will help you better understand the requirements, contact your district IT department, your local Regional Information Center(RIC), local BOCES, or the NYSED CBT support webpage, or Questar Customer Support at 866-997-0695.