THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF STATE ASSESSMENT 89 Washington Avenue, Room 775 EBA Albany, New York 12234

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TO: District Superintendents Superintendents of Public Schools Principals of Public, Religious, and Independent Schools Leaders of Charter Schools

FROM: Zachary Warner

SUBJECT: 2023–24 Elementary- and Intermediate-level Testing Schedule

In the June 2022, <u>Statewide Implementation of Computer-Based Testing memorandum</u>, the New York State Education Department set forth details regarding plans to fully transition to computer-based testing (CBT) for the Grades 3–8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests and the Elementary-level (Grade 5) and Intermediate-level (Grade 8) Science Tests. In Spring 2024, all students in Grades 5 and 8 will be required to take ELA, mathematics, and science Tests via CBT. The other grade levels may also participate in CBT, but paper-based testing will still be available for these students.

One of the benefits that comes with the implementation of computer-based testing is greater flexibility with the testing schedule. For the 2023–24 school year, there will be a singular multiple-week window to administer the Grades 3–8 ELA and Mathematics Computer-based Tests and the Grades 5 & 8 Science Computer-based Tests. The expanded computer-based testing window also provides greater flexibility to schools that do not wish to test during the April 8 solar eclipse and those that may close for the observance of Eid al-Fitr. Schools that are offering only paper-based tests for Grades 3, 4, 6, and/or 7 and are closed on Wednesday, April 10 in recognition of Eid al-Fitr may use Monday, April 15 as an administration date for these exams.

Spring 2024 will also be the first administration of the new Grade 5 and Grade 8 Science Tests aligned to the NYS P-12 Science Learning Standards. Additional information on the new science tests is available on the Office of State Assessment's <u>website</u>.

For both paper-based and computer-based ELA and mathematics testing, schools will select two consecutive days within the respective administration windows to administer assessments for each grade level and subject. Schools must test the entire grade on the same two consecutive school days for each subject. For science, the entire grade must test on the same day. These rules are school-specific and need not be observed as district-specific.

Schools with students in a CBT grade that must test on paper per an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or because they require an alternate language edition of the mathematics or science test that is not available on computer, should test on the same days as their CBT grade cohorts.

| Operational Test | | Administration Window | Make-up Dates | Scoring Dates | Final Dates to Submit Answer Sheets to Scanning Centers |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| NYSAA English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science | | Monday, March 11 – Friday, June 7 | Make-ups must be given within the testing window | N/A | N/A |
| Computer-based testing | Grades 3-8 English Language Arts | Monday, April 8 – Friday, May 17 | Make-ups must be given within the testing window | Must be completed by Friday, May 24* | N/A |
| | Grades 3-8 Mathematics | | | | |
| | Grades 5 & 8 Science | | | | |
| Paper-based testing | Grades 3, 4, 6, 7 English Language Arts | Wednesday, April 10 – Friday, April 12 | Monday, April 15 – Wednesday, April 17 | Must be completed by Tuesday, April 30* | Tuesday, April 30 |
| | Grades 3, 4, 6, 7 Mathematics | Tuesday, May 7 – Thursday, May 9 | Friday, May 10 – Tuesday, May 14 | Must be completed by Wednesday, May 22* | Wednesday, May 22 |
| NYSESLAT Speaking | | Monday, April 15 – Friday, May 24 | Make-ups must be given within the testing window | Speaking is usually scored as it is administered | Friday, June 7 |
| NYSESLAT Listening, Reading, Writing | | Monday, May 13 – Friday, May 24 | Make-ups must be given within the testing window | <mark>Tuesday, May 28 –</mark> Friday, June 7 | Friday, June 7 |

* Teachers may not begin to train for scoring or rate student responses until the primary administration of the specific grade-level test that they are rating have been administered in the teachers' school.

2023-24 School Year Field Test Dates

| Field Test | Administration Dates | |
|---|--|--|
| NYSESLA | <mark>Monday, March 4 –</mark> Friday, March 15 | |
| Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and | Computer-based | Monday, May 20– Friday, June 7 |
| Mathematics | Paper-based | <mark>Tuesday, May 28 –</mark> Friday, June 7 |