

2019 Standards-Based Transition Assessment for Mathematics and ELA Q&A

Q: Is this the same as the 2014 New Mexico Standards Based Assessment we administered before?

A: No, the NMSBA from the past was aligned to the New Mexico Standards and Benchmarks. The Transition Assessment will be a new test, aligned to Common Core State Standards.

Q: Will this test be PARCC, with a new name?

A: No, this is not the same test we have given in the past. It has a new blueprint which can be reviewed on the NMPED website. There are linking items to ensure that we are providing a comparable assessment. <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/assessment/spring2019mathela/>

Q: Will we be administering the Transition Assessment on computers or paper?

A: We will administer the computer-based test to most students. Students who require a paper-based test for special circumstances will still be accommodated (IEP, 504, or a transfer student that lacks appropriate computer skills).

Q: Did Pearson write the Transition Assessment?

A: No. Pearson is the vendor for the test platform but not the test content.

Q: Will the new assessment change what students need to learn for mathematics and English Language Arts?

A: No. New Mexico has adopted the New Mexico Common Core State Standards. Teachers will be teaching the same standards and should continue to do so with high rigor just as they have been.

Q: Will these test scores count on my teacher evaluation?

A: We do not know yet. Information concerning changes outside of the assessment have not been released yet. Teachers should do their best to teach students every day!

Q: Will there be other languages available for the Transition Assessment?

A: The Transition Assessment will be available in Spanish for mathematics only.

Q: Do students have to take this Transition Assessment?

A: Yes. All students in grades 3-11 must take the State's summative assessment. Federal and State Law require that all students to participate.

- Federal: ESEA; HR1, Title1, Part A, Subpart 1, Section 1111, (b), 3, C <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg2.html#sec1111>
- State of New Mexico: Section 22-2C-4 NMSA 1978 https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/CCRB_graduation_NMSA.22-2C-4.Statewide.Assessment.and_Accountability.System.pdf
- State of New Mexico: 6.29.1 .M (1) NMAC <http://164.64.110.134/parts/title06/06.029.0001.html>
- LCPS district policy does recognize that parents have the right to opt their students out of this exam. This opt out is not recognized by the State or Federal law and may have repercussions for students, teachers, and schools. This policy has not changed. There is a new opt out form that parents will need to fill out found on the LCPS website.