



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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November 17, 2015

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Lead Persons

FROM: Jeffrey B. Hauger, Acting Chief Performance Officer
Division of Data, Research, Evaluation and Reporting

SUBJECT: Partnership for Assessments of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
Revised 2015-2016 Clarification Document

Over the past few weeks, the Office of Assessments has received many inquiries regarding the policies associated with the Partnership for Assessments of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) mathematics and English language Arts assessments. We have created a revised clarification document to address these inquiries.

Attached is the revised clarification document. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the PARCC assessments, please feel free to contact Veronica Orsi, PARCC high school coordinator, at veronica.orsi@doe.state.nj.us or 609-292-8729; Timothy Steele-Dadzie, PARCC middle school coordinator, at timothy.steele-dadzie@doe.state.nj.us or 609-777-2087; Orlando Vadel, PARCC elementary school coordinator, at orlando.vadel@doe.state.nj.us or 609-341-3456 in the Office of Assessments.

JBH/revised2015-16PARCCclarification

Attachment

c: Members, State Board of Education
Commissioner David C. Hespe
Senior Staff
Harry Lee
Peggy McDonald
Lori Ramella
Veronica Orsi
Timothy Steele-Dadzie
Orlando Vadel
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers

Executive County Business Official
County Test Coordinators
District Test Coordinators
Bilingual/ESL Coordinators
Directors of Approved Private Schools for the Disabled
Directors of Special Education Services
Directors of College-Operated Programs
Directors of a State Facility
NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools

PARCC 2015-2016 Revised Clarification Document

High School Students NOT Participating in 2015-16 PARCC Assessments

Retained twelfth-grade students, who previously took one or more sections of the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) and/or participated in the Alternative High School Assessment (AHSA), will not take a PARCC assessment regardless of course enrollment during the 2015-16 school year. If these students have not yet met the graduation testing requirement by passing the HSPA and/or AHSA, they must utilize the transitional graduation testing requirements in effect for the graduating classes of 2016-19 or the portfolio appeals process.

Adult High School Students Required to Take PARCC Assessments

Adult high school students enrolled in a requisite course will take the associated PARCC assessment UNLESS they have *taken* or *passed* ANY historical statewide graduation test, i.e. MBS, HSPT 9, HSPT11, SRA, HSPA, or AHSA.

- Adult high school students, who passed any of these historical statewide assessments, have their passing scores banked which will count toward their graduation testing requirement.
- Adult high school students, who took but did not pass any of these historical statewide assessments, must meet the graduation testing requirement via the transitional graduation tests or the portfolio appeals process.

IEP Exempt From Passing High School Students

IEP Exempt From Passing high school students are required to take multiple PARCC assessments in mathematics (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II) and multiple PARCC Assessments in ELA/L (Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11), as dictated in the general guidance for high school PARCC mathematics and ELA/L assessments. IEP Exempt From Passing students are required to meet the graduation requirements specified in their IEP; they are not required to pass the PARCC assessments or the transitional graduation requirements and they are not required to participate in the portfolio appeals process.

High School Students Required to Take the 2015-16 PARCC Mathematics Assessments

All high school students, (excluding HSPA cohort students, as outlined above), irrespective of grade level and previous PARCC test history, who are currently enrolled in an Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II course, must take the PARCC assessment for that course. (This includes high school students who previously took the Algebra I or Geometry assessment in middle school and are repeating the course). High school students not currently enrolled in a requisite mathematics course will not take a PARCC mathematics assessment at this time.

Other Considerations for Mathematics End-of Course PARCC Assessments

Students Enrolled in Multiple Mathematics Requisite Courses: Students enrolled in multiple requisite mathematics courses (i.e. Algebra I & Geometry or Geometry & Algebra II), will take only one PARCC mathematics assessment that being Algebra I or Algebra II.

Two-Year High School Mathematics Courses: High school students enrolled in a two-year Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II course must take the PARCC assessment associated with that course in the second year of the course; they will not take the PARCC assessment during the first year of the two-year course.

Two-Year Middle School Mathematics Courses: Middle school students enrolled in a two-year Algebra I course or a two-year Geometry course, must take their grade level Mathematics PARCC assessment in the first year of the course (i.e. Grade 7 or Grade 8 Mathematics) AND the PARCC end-of-course assessment associated with that course in the second year of the two-year course (i.e. Algebra I or Geometry).

High School Students in Integrated Mathematics Courses: High school students enrolled in an integrated mathematics course that includes Algebra or Geometry, AND is a prerequisite for an Algebra I or Geometry course, do not take the PARCC Algebra I or Geometry assessment while enrolled in the prerequisite course. Rather, they must wait until they are enrolled in an Algebra I or Geometry course to take the specified PARCC assessment.

High school students enrolled in an integrated mathematics course, that includes Algebra or Geometry, AND is an alternative to an Algebra I or Geometry course, must take the PARCC Algebra I or Geometry assessment.

Middle School Students Enrolled in Algebra I or Geometry: Middle School students enrolled in an Algebra I or Geometry course must take the respective Algebra I or Geometry assessment; they do not take the Grade 7 or Grade 8 Mathematics assessment.

Spanish Versions of PARCC Grade 3-8 Mathematics and End-of-Course Mathematics Assessments: Spanish versions of the PARCC Mathematics Assessments are available for Grades 3-8, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. (All ELA assessments are available in English only).

High School Students Required to Take the 2015-16 PARCC English Language Arts Assessments

All ninth-grade students, tenth-grade students, and eleventh-grade students (excluding students who met the Grade 11 ELA/L Three exemption policy), must take the grade appropriate Grade 9 ELA/L One, Grade 10 ELA/L Two, or Grade 11 ELA/L Three PARCC assessment irrespective of course enrollment and previous PARCC test history. This also includes students enrolled in English as a Second Language beginner, intermediate and advanced level courses

High school students enrolled in multiple English Language Arts courses, including but not limited to the courses listed above, will take only one PARCC ELA/L assessment as deemed appropriate by the school district.

Twelfth-grade students, who are currently enrolled in an ELA/L course in order to meet a ninth-grade, tenth-grade, or eleventh-grade ELA/L course requirement, must take the grade appropriate ELA/L PARCC assessment associated with that course irrespective of previous PARCC test history. It is grade-level course assignment that determines participation and not grade-level homeroom assignment.

Grade 11 ELA/L Three Exemption Policy

Districts may exempt high school students from taking the Grade 11 ELA/L Three assessment if they participate in another validated assessment program designed to be used nationally by postsecondary institutions for course placement. Examples include Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, and International Baccalaureate (IB) English. Students must take the AP or IB exam associated with the course to satisfy the annual assessment participation requirement. However, passing one of these AP or IB exams does not satisfy the graduation testing requirement.

English Language Arts Assessment Exemption Policy for Newly Arrived Grade 3-8 English Learners

Only English Learner (EL) elementary and middle school student in grade 3-8, who entered the United States after July 1 of the calendar year prior to the PARCC test administration, may be exempted from taking the ELA/L components of the grades 3-8 PARCC assessments. Newly arrived EL high school students must participate in the PARCC ELA assessments with the appropriate ELA/L accommodations provided.