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Oregon State Assessment Update

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Amended Waiver Submitted

- Despite strong and consistent support of the waiver request from educators, districts, community-based organizations, elected officials, and state leaders, it is clear that **our original waiver did not meet the minimum federal requirements**, and we must forge a new path forward.
- ODE's amended waiver request **strikes the best balance possible** between federal requirements and the desire to preserve maximum opportunities for students and teachers to center relationships and connections in remaining days of school year.
- Amended Assessment Waiver **public comment from April 2-9, 2021** on the [Assessment Team's Communication webpage](#) (and is also linked from the [ODE homepage](#)). The page also includes an Assessment FAQ that will be updated throughout the spring.
- All summative general and alternate assessments in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science **must be made available** for administration in Spring 2021 **for parents and families who want their child to participate in the statewide assessments.**

Summative Assessment Administration

Grade Level	Required Administration (except for students opted-out of ELA and/or Math per ORS 329.479 or exempted from Science per OAR 581-021-009)	Additional Assessment Opportunity *
3	English Language Arts (ELA)	Mathematics
4	Mathematics	ELA
5	Science	ELA & Mathematics
6	ELA	Mathematics
7	ELA & Mathematics	N/A
8	Mathematics & Science	ELA
11	ELA & Mathematics	Science

* ODE is required to make all summative general and alternate assessments available in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.

Shortened Test Blueprint

Estimated average testing times for Spring 2021 Summative Assessments

Content Areas (estimates for all grades)	Estimated Testing Times (hrs : mins)
English language arts	1:15
Mathematics	1:00
Science	1:20

Note: ELA and Math are CAT only and have shortened test blueprints. Science and the ORExt have been shortened by removal of field test items (10 minute reduction in testing time for science and 25% reduction in testing time for the ORExt)

Assessment: Opt-Out & Opt-In

Are parents legally allowed to opt out of Spring 2021 Oregon Summative Assessments?

Yes. ORS 329.479 provides parents the right to opt out of the ELA and Mathematics summative assessments using ODE-provided parent opt-out forms available on our [Test Administration page](#) under the “Forms” pulldown. Parent opt-out forms are now available in form-filled PDF documents to allow for electronic submission. The parent opt-out forms are available in ten additional languages (in addition to the traditional provision of English and Spanish versions). **Note:** *It is a violation of both state and federal law for a local education agency, including school boards, district staff, or school staff, to opt a child out of testing on behalf of a parent.*

Can a school board or public charter school implement a district-wide policy that requires parents to opt-in to state assessments this year?

ODE understands that some districts/public charter schools will be exploring actions to make state assessments a parent opt-in model for this school year. Having parents opt-in to state assessments is a violation of Division 22 requirements ([OAR 581-022-2100](#)), which would require an acknowledgement of such by the Superintendent when assurances are submitted as well as a corrective action plan to come into compliance in the 2021-22 school year.

Note: check the [Assessment Team’s Communication webpage](#) for public comment and an Assessment FAQ

Q & A