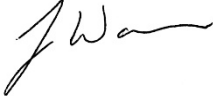




ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF STATE ASSESSMENT
89 Washington Avenue, Room 775 EBA
Albany, New York 12234

September 2023

To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Principals of Public Schools
Leaders of Charter Schools
Leaders of Religious and Independent Schools
Regional Bilingual Education Resource Networks (RBERNS)

From: Zachary Warner 

Subject: 2024 New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test: New Grade 1 Test and Mode of Administration

This memorandum provides two updates related to the spring 2024 administration of the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT).

Introduction of Grade 1 Test

Based on feedback from New York educators, the 2024 NYSESLAT will separate the Grades 1-2 band into distinct assessments. While the Grade 2 test will remain the same as the prior Grades 1-2 band, the new Grade 1 test has been developed specifically for students in that grade. A test sampler with examples of Grade 1 questions as well as directions for administration is available on the [Office of State Assessment's NYSESLAT webpage](#). Following the administration of the NYSESLAT in spring 2024 (see the [2023-24 testing schedule](#)), English as a New Language (ENL) educators will meet to review the expectations for students and recommend achievement standards (also known as “cut scores”) for the new Grade 1 test.

Mode of Administration

In October 2022, a [memo](#) was issued to notify the field of a delay in the transition of the NYSESLAT to computer-based testing (CBT). That memo stated that “the first administration of computer-based NYSESLAT and NYSITELL assessments will remain within the planned window for statewide implementation of computer-based testing.” This intention remains and it is expected that the NYSESLAT and NYSITELL will transition to CBT in spring of 2026, the final year of the Grades 3-8 implementation. This timeline will allow for the ongoing [Graduation Measures](#) initiative to include discussions of the needs of English Language Learners and to consider recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission regarding opportunity and equity in obtaining a diploma. As a result, the spring 2024 and spring 2025 NYSESLAT administrations will be paper based.

Please contact the Office of State Assessment with questions about the NYSESLAT at (518) 474-5902 or emscassessinfo@nysed.gov.