AzMERIT

ARIZONA'S STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENT FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS

Implementing an Arizona Assessment

➢ AzMERIT is a uniquely Arizona test that measures Arizona standards

➢ Arizona educators role in the development of AzMERIT is significant

➢ Students in grades 3 through high school will take AzMERIT
- Including all English Language Learners
- Most students with disabilities

➢ Students in grades 3-8
- ELA and Math at grade level

➢ Students enrolled in high school level courses
- ELA 9, ELA 10, ELA 11
- Algebra 1-2, Geometry, Algebra 3-4
- Regardless of student's grade

✓ The Arizona Science Standards did not change, so students in Grades 4, 8, and high school will still take the AIMS Science test.
✓ High school students graduating after December 31, 2016 will no longer be required to pass the AIMS test to graduate high school.

Arizona's Unique Assessment

SIMILAR TO AIMS

➢AzMERIT is based on an Arizona specific test blueprint; it will include content that has been approved by Arizona, and it will provide scoring and reporting as specified by Arizona

DIFFERENT THAN AIMS

➢AzMERIT is aligned to the current, more rigorous, English language arts and Mathematics standards

➢AzMERIT is a computer-based assessment with a greater variety of test item types

➢High school testing is now end-of-course testing, not tied to graduation

➢AzMERIT results will identify if students are on track to be college and career ready upon graduation from high school

➢AzMERIT results will be comparable to statewide test results in many other states

Computer-Based Assessment

ADVANTAGES

➢ Test Items – interactive items and audio features

➢ Accessibility and Accommodations - all students

➢ Scheduling Logistics – longer testing window with more flexibility

➢ Faster Results – after spring 2015

TECH READINESS

➢ ADE helped schools evaluate their technical readiness

➢ A paper-based version will be available

➢ Computer-based and paper-based test forms will be equated

DVUSD Computer-Based and Paper-Based Schools

➤33 schools are computer-based
- ➤15 K-6 schools
- ➤12 K-8 schools
- ➤2 Middle Schools
- ➤3 High schools
- ➤1 Alternative school

➤4 schools are paper-based
- o BCHS, DVHS, Highland Lakes, Hillcrest Middle School

DVUSD Computer-Based and Paper-Based Schools

BGHS Region	BCHS Region	DVHS Region	MRHS Region	SDOHS Region
Paper-based No schools	**Paper-based** BCHS	**Paper-based** DVHS, Highland Lakes	**Paper-based** Hillcrest	**Paper-based** No schools
Computer-based All Schools	**Computer-based** All Other Schools	**Computer-based** All Other Schools	**Computer-based** All Other Schools	**Computer-based** All Schools

End-of-Course (EOC) Testing

➢AzMERIT End-of-Course tests provide information about students' proficiency and mastery of the standards in specific required high school level courses

➢In English language arts, EOC tests will be given for Grades 9 through 11

➢In mathematics, EOC tests will be given for Algebra 1-2, Geometry, and Algebra 3-4 or their equivalents. Passing EOC tests is not required for high school graduation

➢Taken when enrolled in the course regardless of student's grade, this includes younger students enrolled in high school level courses (who will take both end-of-course tests and the grade level AzMERIT test)

When will AzMERIT be given?

➤ Spring 2015 – Test Window

Computer-based	March 30-May 8
Paper-based	April 14-April 24

➤ Each school will have an AzMERIT schedule that will be communicated to parents prior to spring break

➤ AzMERIT testing times may be shorter than AIMS

➤ Spring 2015 AzMERIT results will be available after the start of the 2015-2016 school year
  o In the future, results available before the end of school

How will AzMERIT Data be Useful?

➢Schools
- o Students are learning what they should be learning
- o Teachers are teaching what they should be teaching
- o Schools are providing appropriate supports to students and teachers
- o A-F Letter Grades

➢Teachers and Administrators
- o Teacher & principal evaluations

➢Students
- o Grade 3 "Move on When Reading" – on hold for spring 2015
- o High School End-of-Course testing

Additional Information

ADE Website: http://www.azed.gov/assessment/azmerit/