

Parents' Right to Know: Testing Transparency

Sections 1112(e)(2)(A)-(B) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each district receiving Title I, Part A funds notify the parents of each student attending a school receiving Title I, Part A funds of specific information regarding testing transparency. This document includes a summary of these requirements as well as sample language that can be customized by districts and then shared with parents. Please note there are two sections of requirements to demonstrate compliance.

Testing Transparency in General [See ESSA 1112(e)(2)(A)]

ESSA 1112(e)(2)(A) requires the district to notify parents that they may request, and the district will provide, information regarding any state or district policy regarding student participation in any assessment mandated by ESSA 1111(b)(2) and by the state or district, which shall include a policy, procedure or parental right to opt the child out of such assessment, where applicable.

This information can be shared with parents through a variety of means, including but not limited to a letter, posting on the district website, inclusion in a student handbook, etc. The following language can be customized and used by districts to meet this requirement:

Parents have the right to request information regarding any state and district policy regarding student participation in mandatory assessments and the district will provide this information in a timely fashion. Requests for state and Morgan County assessment policies can be submitted to:

Dr. Ralph Hamilton, Superintendent of Morgan County Schools

155 University Drive, West Liberty, KY 41472

(606) 743-8002

Please note that districts in Kentucky are not permitted to honor a parent's request to opt-out of statewide testing. Additional information is available in the [Testing Opt-out Message](#).

Testing Transparency: Additional Information [See ESSA 1112(e)(2)(B)]

ESSA 1112(e)(2)(B) states that each district shall make widely available through public means (including by posting in a clear and easily accessible manner on the district's website and where practicable, on the website of each school served by the district) for each grade served by the district, information on each assessment required by the state to comply with Section 1111 of ESSA, other assessments required by the state, and where such information is available and feasible to report, assessments required districtwide by the district, including:

- The subject matter assessed;
- The purpose for which the assessment is designed and used;

- The source of the requirement for the assessment; and
- Where such information is available: The amount of time students will spend taking the assessment, the schedule for the assessment and the time and format for disseminating results.

ESSA requires this information be posted to the district website to demonstrate compliance. Districts may also consider sharing the information through other means to increase the likelihood it is seen by parents and guardians such as posting to the school websites, including in a handbook, sending a letter, etc. The following information regarding the required state assessments can be added to the district's website.

Beginning in 1990, Kentucky chose to have an all-inclusive assessment system by having all Kentucky public school students participate in annual testing with the results of those assessments included in the state's accountability system for schools and districts. Kentucky tests students on various subjects beginning in grade 3. On average, administering Kentucky's state-level assessments takes less than one percent (1%) of the total instructional time in a given school year. The following assessments are required in Kentucky. Please refer to the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE's) [Assessments webpage](#) and individual assessment webpages to obtain the appropriate information to share with parents. The test windows for the current school year are available on KDE's [Assessment Support webpage](#).

- [Kentucky Summative Assessment \(KSA\)](#) and [Alternate KSA](#)
- [The ACT](#)
- [ACCESS for ELLs](#)
- [Common Kindergarten Entry Screener \(K SCREEN\)](#)

Morgan County Schools requires the following assessments:

- I-Ready Diagnostic
 - Grades: Kindergarten-8th
 - Subjects: Reading and Math
 - Purpose: to identify a student's strengths and weaknesses in reading and math, allowing teachers to personalize instruction and track student progress
- MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Growth
 - Grades: 9th-12th
 - Subjects: Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies
 - Purpose: used to measure student achievement and growth in subjects like reading, math, language usage, and science, primarily in K-12 education