



Did You Know?

CHECK IT OUT!

PaSLP Toolkit



Essential Element 3: Assessment

An assessment system that addresses the dual purposes of assessment (i.e., accountability and informing decision-making) is a critical component of a district comprehensive literacy plan. An effective assessment plan requires the inclusion of technically adequate information, multiple measures, and provides opportunities for educators to learn how to administer, analyze, interpret, and apply data results to inform instructional practices and improve student learning.

Accommodations for PSSA/Keystone

- Webinars --** [2020 Guidelines for Selection and Use of Accommodations for Keystone and PSSA Tests \(PowerPoint\)](#)
[2020 Guidelines for Selection and Use of Accommodations for Keystone Exams and PSSA Tests Webinar \(YouTube\)](#)
- Handbooks --** [2020 Accommodations Guidelines \(PDF\)](#) ←
[2020 Accommodations Guidelines for ELs \(PDF\)](#)
[2020 Read Aloud and Scribing Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)
- Forms --** [2020 PSSA TDA Scribing Accommodation Form \(PDF\)](#)
[2020 Unique Accommodation Form \(PDF\)](#)
[2020 Confidentiality Agreement for Language Interpreters/Sight Translators and Educational Sign Language Interpreters Form \(PDF\)](#)

New Resources

Last month we introduced our [PDE exemplar units](#) written in collaboration with Newsela. Using PA ELA and SS standards as the framework, Newsela has aligned relevant, differentiated, and engaging content for use in the classroom. Aligned at a unit, topic and article level, teachers and administrators will have access to instructional resources to support differentiation and engagement. Newsela is offering overview webinars to provide instructional context and support. Please [rsvp here](#) to one of the upcoming webinars. In order to gain access you need to set up a Newsela license (no charge) [here](#). Be sure to note yourself as an educator.

Professional Development

Teaching Foundational Reading Skills

The PLACE: Professional Learning and Collaboration Environment

Click to Register

**FRIDAY
INSTITUTE**

The *Teaching Foundational Reading Skills* MOOC-Ed will help you effectively prepare your students in grades K–3 with the skills they need to become successful readers. This MOOC-Ed is organized around the recommendations of the *Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade* Practice Guide, published in July 2016 by the U.S. Department of Education's What Works Clearinghouse.

Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction
Division of Instructional Quality
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Email questions to:

dsimaska@pa.gov
rbaumleama@pa.gov

Refer to the Guidelines
for additional
information.

SCRIBING

Grade 3 ELA Scribing
-- Do not submit the TDA Scribing form. **Mark the scribing bubble** on the accommodations page in the answer booklet.

Grades 4-8 ELA Scribing
--Submit the TDA Scribing form and **mark** the scribing bubble on the accommodations page in the answer booklet.

Scribing forms must be submitted to PDE no later than 2 WEEKS prior to the start of the testing window. If a recent injury requires scribing for the TDA prompt, this form is submitted prior to student testing.

[2020 PSSA TDA Scribing Accommodation Form](#)

UNIQUE ACCOMMODATIONS

This accommodation is intended for those students with a severe disability that precludes them from accessing and responding to instructional and assessment materials through typical means, such as the hard copy test booklet or typical calculator.

Requests must be made no later than 8 WEEKS prior to the start of the testing window to allow for review and response.

[2020 Unique Accommodation Form](#)