

**MSIP 5 Questions & Answers on the
2014-2015 Missouri Assessment Program
January 31, 2014**

ACT

Q: What, if any, other high school exams will be used in addition to ACT?

A: Requirements of the new assessment plan can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/stateboard/meetings/january/documents/revisedassessmentplan.pdf>. For MSIP 5 Annual Performance Report (APR) purposes, the new plan maintains EOCs in Algebra I or Algebra II, English II, Biology and Government. The Department also utilizes the Algebra I/II and English II EOC to meet the federal requirement for high school content accountability.

All students – except those who qualify for MAP-A – will be required to take the ACT in grade 11. The ACT will continue to be a part of the MSIP 5 Standard 3 College and Career Readiness (CCR) *1-3 along with COMPASS, ASVAB and SAT. The highest score from those four assessments is used in the Annual Performance Report (APR).

Q: What if a student has already taken the ACT? Do they still take the state test? If a student has multiple ACT scores, which score “counts” for MSIP purposes?

A: Students who have taken the ACT prior to the state administration are required to take the ACT in grade 11. The **highest** score from ACT, COMPASS, ASVAB or SAT is utilized for MSIP 5 Standard 3 College and Career Readiness &*1-3 in the APR.

Q: Why are all grade 11 students required to take the ACT?

A: The Department is committed to raising expectations for students and improving our assessment system with the goal of preparing every Missouri student for college and career after high school graduation. The ACT is being utilized in place of the End of High School (EOHS) assessment as a measurement of college and career readiness. In addition, the ACT scores will be used to provide the state and districts comparability with other states who do a universal ACT administration.

Spring 2014 Assessment Administration

Q: What do we do for spring administration? LND for current students?

A: The new assessment plan will be effective the 2014-2015 school year. Until that time, the current assessment plan is in place. A Level Not Determined (LND) is reviewed in a student’s graduate file. The assessment plan in place at the time of reviewing the graduate file will determine if there is a LND.

Q: American History and English I are both freshman courses in our district. If we are expected to follow through with the MSIP 5 Assessment Plan, will we need to give these assessments this and next year as well?

A: The new assessment plan will be in effect beginning with the 2014-2015 school year; American History and English I EOCs will become optional at that time. For the 2013-2014 school year, you should continue to administer the required EOCs to all students who complete the course.

Annual Performance Report

Q: Will the performance levels be adjusted based on the new assessment plan?

A: The MSIP 5 Comprehensive Guidance document indicates a review of status targets will take place in 2015.

Q: How can you compare the reliability and validity of scores taken from a 3 hour test with performance and constructive response items to that of only a sampling of multiple choice items and then weight the two the same in state accreditation values tables?

A: The Department is engaged in technical assessment design to provide our administration vendor with the necessary test designs, test blueprints, computer adaptive algorithms, technical connections to the 5th and 8th grade Smarter Balanced assessments, and scaling model to ensure that the assessments are technically sound (valid and reliable) for use in the accountability system, the growth model, and educator evaluation.

Q: How will the survey assessments and Smarter Balanced created assessments be weighted for APR?

A: Please see answer to question above. Once the validity and reliability of the survey assessments has been determined, the MSIP 5 Technical Advisory Committee will review and make a recommendation.

New Assessment Plan

Q: Does Personal Finance have an EOC or is this EOC still only for students taking Personal Finance in an embedded curriculum?

A: As part of their curriculum, students in Missouri must earn a 1/2 credit in the area of Personal Finance.

- Students who are receiving personal finance credit from embedded coursework: The online assessment is REQUIRED. The pass rate is the district's decision.
- Students attempting to "test out" and receive personal finance credit toward graduation: The online assessment is REQUIRED. Students must attain a score of 90% or higher to receive personal finance credit.
- Students who are enrolled in a stand-alone personal finance course: The online assessment is OPTIONAL. Participation, however, permits the district to evaluate student achievement with an assessment fully aligned to state standards.
- A student may take the Personal Finance Assessment ONE time per testing window.

Q: How will personal finance fit into the scoring and will it be used for MSIP?

A: Personal Finance will not be utilized in the MSIP 5 scoring guide.

Q: Will the End of High School (EOHS) assessments be available for district use?

A: The EOHS assessments are not a part of the new assessment schedule and will not be used in the MSIP 5 APR. It is undetermined if these will be available for individual district use.