

Administrative Memo

Date: February 5, 2015
To: School Administrators
From: Sharon Helwig, Ph.D. – Assistant Commissioner
Subject: CCR-15-005 –Change in Spring 2015 State Assessment

In order to ensure a smooth administration of the new assessment system, Missouri will administer computerized “fixed form” assessments, much like the EOC model, for the spring 2015 summative assessments for grades 3-8. This step toward full implementation will result in the best product possible for Missouri LEAs.

The fixed form assessments will align with Missouri Learning Standards as planned. Test items will be Smarter Balanced items and will be designed according to the Smarter Balanced test blueprint. The implementation timeline, tools and accommodations, and other system components are as described in the [2014-2015 LEA Guide to the Missouri Assessment Program](#). This change should also place less demand on LEA bandwidth.

Missouri remains a part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. The change will have no impact on future implementation of a computer adaptive test. Fixed forms will be used for one year, and Missouri will complete implementation of computer adaptive testing in the 2015-16 school year. Interim assessments will be available through the 2015-16 school year.

LEAs should continue to use the administrative interface eDIRECT and load the platform INSIGHT onto devices that will be used for student testing. The LEA Guide to the Missouri Assessment Program 2014-15 may be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/assessment/lea-guide-missouri-assessment-program-2014-2015>.

Please contact the Assessment Section at (573) 751-3545 or email Assessment@dese.mo.gov if you have questions or need further information.