

Administrative Memo

Date: March 12, 2014
To: School Administrators
From: Dennis Cooper, Assistant Commissioner
Subject: QS-14-002 – Revised Assessment Plan

On Tuesday, January 14, 2014, the State Board of Education approved a revised assessment plan beginning 2014-2015 School Year. This plan was developed with the department's education partners in response to the challenges of funding and the increased assessment time required for students.

The change to the assessment plan has generated questions about the impact on the Annual Performance Report (APR). Key points to remember for the MSIP 5 APR and the transition from the current assessment plan to the new plan:

- For the 2013- 2014 school year, districts should continue to administer the required End-of-Course (EOC) assessments to all students who complete the course. The new assessment plan will be in effect beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.
- A Level Not Determined (LND) is reviewed as part of a student's graduate file. The assessment plan in place at the time of graduation will be used to determine if there is an LND.
- Beginning in 2014-2015, districts are required to administer the ACT® to all grade 11 students – except those who qualify for MAP-A. In addition, students may continue to take the ACT® outside of the state administration throughout their high school career. 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.
- In October 2012, school districts were directed to choose to administer *either* the mathematics grade-level (GLA) or end-of-course (EOC) test to students prior to grade nine as appropriate for each individual student
<http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/qs-esea-waiver-algebra1-eoc-QS-12-004.pdf>

This policy change was effective immediately but was not retro-active. Beginning with the first cohort of students impacted, the graduating class of 2017, all students who take or took mathematics EOC in place of a GLA are required to take an additional mathematics EOC prior to graduating to fulfill the high school mathematics accountability requirement.

For additional information about the new assessment plan, please visit the following pages on the Department's website:

<http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/NewAssessmentPlanQandA13114.pdf>

<http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/AssessmentFAQ.pdf>

If you have additional questions, please contact Jocelyn Strand Jocelyn.Strand@dese.mo.gov or Melissa Hensley Melissa.Hensley@dese.mo.gov of the Office of Quality Schools.