



## EOC Questions & Answers for Schools

### Timeline of Events

- When the department received 2017 statewide assessment results in late July, staff immediately alerted Questar, Missouri’s End-of-Course (EOC) test vendor, that further analysis was needed.
- DESE staff then convened the state’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) – made up of nationally recognized experts in assessment – to review the results.
- At its August 18 meeting, the TAC concluded that there were year-to-year comparability issues for the EOCs for Algebra I and English II. Comparability between different test forms is necessary in order to relate the scores on one form to scores on another.
- The TAC did not express concern about any other EOCs.
- This was the last year these test items and forms were to be used. Missouri educators have been developing mathematics and English language arts assessments—both grade-level assessments and EOCs—that will be administered beginning this year.

### **How will the Algebra I and English II End-of-Course (EOC) assessments be used in the Annual Performance Report (APR)?**

DESE will not use the End-of-Course assessment scores for Algebra I and English II for status and progress in the accountability system. The 2017 EOC district and statewide results will not be released in these subjects. In addition, prior years’ APRs will not be affected.

### **How will the state handle the APR calculations given the exclusion of Algebra I and English II?**

Based on the exclusion of Algebra I and English II EOCs from the Annual Performance Report, DESE will take the following steps to ensure there is no disadvantage to students, districts, and charter schools when producing fair and accurate reports.

- District APRs will not include Algebra I and English II EOCs in the status and progress calculations.
- Status targets and progress calculations will be adjusted to accommodate the loss of the two EOCs.

- Priority is on district and charter LEA APRs. Decisions regarding building-level APRs will be made at a later date.
- For students who took the Algebra I and English II EOCs, the participation requirement has been met. Students do not need to retake these tests.

The MSIP Comprehensive Guide will be modified to reflect these changes. As part of the modification process, there will be a public hearing on October 4. The Hold Harmless Adjustment found in the Comprehensive Guide will remain in force.

**How should districts handle individual students’ EOC scores?**

School districts and charter LEAs have already received Questar’s individual student reports (ISRs). Consistent with previous guidance from DESE, educators should use raw scores from those assessments. Districts may also use EOC scores for determining A+ scholarship eligibility. Accordingly, student record labels may be used as appropriate.

**How will the APR release timeline be adjusted?**

The department’s next steps will include the following:

1. MSIP TAC will convene on September 12.
2. Comprehensive Guide revisions will be made during the week of September 18.
3. Public Hearing on MSIP Comprehensive guide will be held on October 4.

District Actions	Date
Achievement data to schools districts and charter schools during week of...	Week of September 5
Appeals window Data corrections for EOCs	Closes September 22

Further timeline information will be published as soon as it is available.

**What are the department’s next steps regarding assessments?**

We will convene a work group to review and make recommendations regarding steps the department can take to improve administration of assessments and delivery of results. Topics will include such things as

- timeline for the release of scores to districts,
- length of testing windows, and
- technology variations among districts and charter LEAs.