Seeking Reviewers for Dynamic Learning Maps 2017-18 External Review of Science Testlets

The Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment Consortium is seeking educators from its partner science states to review testlets (sets of five items) for the new assessments. We are especially looking for people with science expertise at this time. Panelists will review items through June 2017.

What is the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment?
The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment Science Consortium is based at the University of Kansas. The DLM Alternate Assessment Science Consortium includes 8 partner states. The DLM system delivers a next generation alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. DLM assessments measure student mastery of content in science within varying levels of complexity. The assessments will primarily be delivered in the form of short testlets that contain five items.

What is testlet review?
New science testlets will be written for the DLM assessments beginning in January 2017. All new testlets need to be reviewed by educators from outside the DLM project to make sure the items are of high quality and are ready for field testing. Items are reviewed by different panels for different purposes. We will review for content, instructional relevance, appropriateness and accessibility for students with significant cognitive disabilities, freedom from bias, and sensitivity.

What does a panelist do?
Because we work with many states, our panels will be conducted virtually. Each panelist will be assigned groups of testlets to review within a certain window of time. Panelists will preview items on their own computers and will complete an online survey about each set of items.

What would being a panelist mean for me?

1. Once selected, you will successfully complete an online training course and sign a security agreement.
2. You will be assigned batches of testlets to review and evaluate. Each batch of reviews must be completed in the allotted window (usually two weeks). There will be several batches assigned during the remainder of the 2017-18 academic year. Each batch is projected to take one to two hours to review.
3. Panelists will not receive a salary but there will be incentives for completing review targets.
4. Panelists may be eligible for continuing education credits through their state or district for completing the one-hour training course.

What are the requirements?
We seek educators with a broad array of perspectives and backgrounds, although we especially seek individuals with content expertise science and in education and assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. All panelists must have access to a computer with internet access. We ask that volunteers commit to several review assignments across the remainder of the academic year.

How do I sign up?
To volunteer as a panelist, complete the survey at https://kansasedu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3D9EeM2YmzhxokB

DLM staff will notify volunteers who are selected to serve according to the following schedule:

Volunteer by	Notified of selection and to complete training by	Panelist completes training by
January 13, 2017	January 20, 2017	February 19, 2017

First assignments will typically be made within 10 days after the deadline for completing training, even if the panelist completes training before the deadline.

If you have any questions about the DLM Alternate Assessment Consortium external review, please email dlm.externalreview@ku.edu.