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Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2013 8:44 AM
Cc: Lucero, Frances, PED
Subject: New End-of-Course Assessments and Blueprints Available

December 2, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Public School Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, High School Principals, Directors of State Education Institutions, and District Test Coordinators

FROM: Pete Goldschmidt, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary, Assessment and Accountability

RE: **NEW END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS AND BLUEPRINTS AVAILABLE**

In August 2013, the Public Education Department worked with New Mexico educators to produce twenty-seven (27) new End-of-Course Exams (EoCs) in the subject areas of Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Physical Education, Health Education, Information Technology, and Spanish Language. In November 2013, another group of New Mexico educators reviewed the assessments and blueprints, ensuring that the tests are well-aligned to the standards and that the items are of high quality and void of bias. Each EoC is a cumulative assessment intended to be given as a final exam at the completion of a course to assess student mastery of a subject. Many of these new assessments can be used for students to demonstrate subject-specific competency to earn a New Mexico Diploma of Excellence. All of the assessments can be used by districts to help assess a teacher's unique contribution to student learning.

The Tests, Answer Documents, and Scoring Keys for all new EoCs are all available on the Student Online Assessment Prep site (SOAP). District or charter school SOAP Managers can access these assessments in the DOCS library under the EoC function for academic year 2013–2014. The EoCs will be available on SOAP for download until December 13, 2013. Please download the tests and supporting materials, and maintain them in a secure location in electronic format. **Remember that the EoCs may not be distributed to Test Administrators until the day of the test. Teachers may not access the EoC Tests or Scoring Keys before, during, or after administration.**

Updated blueprints for the assessments are available on the PED's Assessment and Evaluation webpage (<http://ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AssessmentEvaluation/EOC/index.html>). These blueprints list the standards assessed on each EoC exam, and specification tables that determine the reporting categories, assessed standard per item, and Depth of Knowledge (DOK) level of each item. Please note that these updated blueprints are more specific than the preliminary blueprints posted in October, and in some cases reflect minor revisions to assessed benchmarks. The blueprints are intended to provide teachers and students with an understanding of the essential standards per subject, and the depth at which each standard should be reviewed.

Some of the new EoCs are traditional, multiple-choice, Paper-Based Assessments (PBA) and some are Student Performance Assessments (SPA). The table below lists the available assessments, the grade level of students who may be tested, and the assessment type. We will post Administration Guides and updated Blueprints for the SPAs this week. For high school graduation purposes, a student may take or retake an EoC the allowed number of times as long as that student has previously completed the course. The EoC retake policy is available in the *EoC Information* guidance document on the above website.

The **bolded** EoCs in the table below may be used by students as additional opportunities to meet graduation requirements. Please view the blueprints and the Alternate Demonstration of Competency (ADC) Manual for specific information about the use of an EoC to meet graduation requirements.

<i>EoC</i>	<i>Grade Levels of Assessed Standards</i>	<i>Assessed Grades</i>	<i>Type</i>
Algebra I	9–12	7–12	PBA
Algebra II	9–12	10–12	PBA
Biology	9–12	9–12	PBA
Chemistry	9–12	9–12	PBA
Economics	9–12	9–12	PBA
English Language Arts III: Reading	11	11	PBA
English Language Arts III: Writing	11	11	PBA
Spanish Language Arts III: Reading	11	11	PBA
Spanish Language Arts III: Writing	11	11	PBA
English/Language Arts IV: Reading	12	12	PBA
English/Language Arts IV: Writing	12	12	PBA
General Computer Applications	9–12	9–12	SPA
Health Education	9–12	6–12	PBA
Integrated Math III	10–12	10–12	PBA
Introduction to Art	4–5	4–5	SPA
Introduction to Art	6–8	6–8	SPA
Introduction to Art	9–12	9–12	SPA
Mathematics ADC	9–12	9–12	PBA
Music	4–5	4–5	SPA
Music	9–12	9–12	PBA/SPA
New Mexico History	9–12	7–12	PBA
Physical Education	4–5	4–5	PBA/SPA
Physical Education	6–8	6–8	PBA/SPA
Physical Education	9–12	9–12	PBA/SPA
Science Grade 8	6–8	8	PBA

Social Studies Grade 6	6	6	PBA
Spanish I	9–12	7–12	PBA
U.S. Government—Comprehensive	9–12	9–12	PBA
U.S. History	9–12	9–12	PBA
World History and Geography	9–12	9–12	PBA

Please ensure that teachers have access to the updated blueprints so they may plan their curricula to cover the assessed standards.

Some of the new EoCs are refreshed versions of EoCs produced in 2012. All students graduating after the spring of 2014 should take the new EoCs. Students intending to graduate in the spring of 2014 should take the EoCs listed below to meet graduation requirements. **These assessments already have established passing scores or will have passing scores set by April 2014.**

SUBJECT	EOCS WITH PASSING SCORES SET BY APRIL 2014
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language Arts III: Reading V001
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra II V001 Integrated Math III V001 Algebra I V001^[1] Mathematics ADC V001
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology V002 Chemistry V002
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language Arts III: Writing V001
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. History V001 U.S. Government—Comprehensive V001 Economics V001 N.M. History V001

Please refer to the Graduation Checklist on the PED main website for guidance regarding the use of EoCs for graduation purposes. Additional use of EoCs is a local decision made by the district or charter school.

If you have questions or concerns regarding EoCs, please contact Joslyn Overby (Joslyn.Overby@state.nm.us or 505-827-6570).

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