



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Education
& Early Development

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner 

DATE: March 29, 2021

SUBJECT: Extension of Test Window

In light of recent guidance provided by the United States Department of Education and in response to concerns raised by districts regarding the schedule for the Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS), the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) is extending the 2020-2021 PEAKS test administration window by two weeks. This extension will allow districts to accommodate administration of additional make-up tests, rescheduling due to extended student or staff illnesses, and other unique challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While some districts will welcome the additional time to address challenges, DEED recognizes that many districts have testing schedules in place that will not require additional time. If this extension is not needed to support your district's testing efforts, please continue with your planned PEAKS administration schedule and complete testing accordingly.

Due to this extension, the reporting schedule will be extended as well. Please note the following updated timeline for the remainder of the 2020-2021 testing year.

Updated 2020-2021 PEAKS Timeline:

PEAKS Testing Window: March 29th to May 14th
COVID-19 Reporting Spreadsheet Submission Deadline: May 21st
PEAKS Electronic Reports Available to Districts: August 5th
PEAKS Paper Reports Available to Districts: August 20th

Questions regarding the PEAKS administration window should be directed to Kelly Manning, Assessments Administrator, at Kelly.Manning@alaska.gov.