

Davis School District Policy and Procedures

Subject: 4I-005 Assessments of Student Achievement

Index: Instructional Programs - *Graduation*

Revised: ~~August 6, 2019~~October 1, 2024

1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

To ensure that student progress is accurately measured through statewide achievement assessments, the Board of Education of Davis School District (Board) recognizes its responsibility to develop a comprehensive assessment system plan in accordance with state and federal laws. Information from such student assessments may be used by the Davis School District (District), schools, and educators as an additional tool to plan, measure, and evaluate the effectiveness of the District's educational program.

2. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

It shall be the responsibility of the District's Assessment Director ("Director") to establish a Plan to Administer Statewide Assessments which includes District guidelines and procedures that District personnel shall follow when administering student assessments in accordance with state and federal laws, Utah State Board of Education (USBE) rules for statewide assessment administration, and USBE Standard Test Administration and Testing Ethics Policy. The guidelines and procedures shall contain, at a minimum:

- 2.1. Training Requirements;
- 2.2. Test Administration and Ethics;
- 2.3. Reporting of Violations;
- 2.4. Penalties; and
- 2.5. Student Participation and Exceptions.

3. STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT

- 3.1. The District shall administer statewide assessments to all students enrolled in the grade level or course to which the assessment applies.
- 3.2. A student's IEP team, English Learner team, or Section 504 accommodation plan team shall determine an individual student's participation in statewide assessments consistent with Utah Participation and Accommodations Policy.
- 3.3. An educator may use a student's score on a statewide assessment to improve the student's academic grade for or demonstrate the student's competency within a relevant course.
- 3.4. No school or employee may provide a nonacademic reward to a student for merely taking a statewide assessment.

4. STUDENT EXEMPT FROM A STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT

- 4.1. A student's parent may exempt the student from a statewide assessment under Utah Code Ann. §53G-6-803 and Utah Administrative Code R277-404-7.
- 4.2. Statewide assessments are defined as assessments that are federally-mandated, state-mandated, and/or require the use of a state assessment system or software that is provided or paid for by the state.
- 4.1.4.3. In order to exercise the right to exclude a student from a statewide assessment, a parent/guardian shall fill out the USBE Parental Exclusion Form and submit it to the

- school principal. The Parental Exclusion Form must be submitted on an annual basis.
- 4.4. A school or educator may not impose additional procedures to exercise this right nor may any penalty or adverse consequences be imposed upon the student.
- 4.2.4.5. Students exempted from a statewide assessment by a parent shall be provided an alternative assessment/learning activity if they are in attendance during test administration.
- 4.3.4.6. School grading, teacher evaluation, and student progress reports or grades may not be negatively impacted by students excused from taking a statewide assessment.

5. **PRIVATE SCHOOL, SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED IN AN ELIBIBLE SCHOOL, AND HOME SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS**

An annual calendar of assessment window dates, a list of applicable fees, and applications for participation may be obtained from the District's Assessment Department ("Department").

5.1. **Private School Students**

Private school students whose custodial parent resides within the District may be allowed to participate in statewide assessments at a District location as follows:

- 5.1.1. Applications for participation in statewide assessments must be received by the Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the applicable assessment window.
- 5.1.2. The Department shall respond to the application in a timely manner. If the application is approved, the response will include:
- [a] costs associated with the assessment(s);
 - [b] the location(s) and time(s) for assessment;
 - [c] assessment rules, including identification and proof of residency;
 - [d] a list of implements or materials which the student may or may not bring to the assessment; and
 - [e] any other information deemed relevant by the Department.
- 5.1.3. The number of private school students will be limited to space available after currently enrolled public school students have been accommodated.
- 5.1.4. Applicants shall pay, in advance, all District and state costs associated with participation in statewide assessments. Costs shall be calculated in accordance with Utah Administrative Code R277-604-3(4) and published in the District's guidelines and procedures annually.
- 5.1.5. In the event applicant has an IEP or 504 Accommodation Plan in place requiring special accommodations, it is the responsibility of the applicant/parent to **indicate such at the time of application**. The Department shall review the requested accommodation(s) and determine the costs and feasibility of the request. The applicant shall be informed of the results of the determination prior to the testing date. Any costs related to providing the approved accommodations must be paid prior to the assessment date.
- 5.1.6. ~~Assessment results are digitally posted in a parent's myDSD account. will be delivered electronically to the email address of the student's parent.~~

5.2. **Private Schools**

Private schools with a physical location inside of the District's boundaries may request to participate in statewide assessment(s) under the supervision of the District as provided for in the District's guidelines and procedures and Utah Administrative Rule R277-604-3(3).

5.3. **Home School Students**

Home school students whose parent resides in the District may participate in statewide

assessments as follows:

- 5.3.1. The student must have applied for and received a *Compulsory Education Exemption* from the District's Department of Student and Family Resources for the applicable school year.
- 5.3.2. Applications for participation in statewide assessments must be received by the Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the applicable assessment window.
- 5.3.3. The Department shall respond to the application in a timely manner. If the application is approved, the response shall indicate:
 - [a] the location(s) and time(s) for assessment;
 - [b] assessment rules, including identification and proof of residency;
 - [c] a list of implements or materials which the student may or may not bring to the assessment; and
 - [d] any other information deemed relevant by the Department.
- 5.3.4. The resident or neighborhood school shall be the test location where reasonably feasible. However, there is no guarantee that the eligible student will be assessed at their resident or neighborhood school.
- 5.3.5. In the event an applicant requires special accommodations for assessment, it is the responsibility of the student/parent to indicate such **at the time of application**. The Department shall review the requested accommodation(s) and determine the costs and feasibility of the request. The home school student shall be informed of the results of the determination prior to the assessment date.
- 5.3.6. Assessment results will be delivered electronically to the email address of the student's parent.

5.4. Scholarship Students Not Enrolled in an Eligible School or Qualifying School.

- 5.4.1. A scholarship student not enrolled in an eligible school, a qualifying school, or part time in an LEA, may participate in all statewide assessments required for all Utah students.
- 5.4.2. A scholarship student who is not enrolled in an eligible school or qualifying school and desires to participate in statewide assessments may participate in an LEA convenient to the student's circumstances.
- 5.4.3. A scholarship student who is not enrolled in an eligible school or qualifying school or the scholarship student's parent may request the following from the LEA in which the scholarship student is participating in statewide assessments:
 - [a] an annual schedule of statewide assessments dates;
 - [b] the locations at which scholarship students may be tested; and
 - [c] policies for scholarship student participation.
- 5.4.4. A Scholarship Student desiring to participate in a statewide assessment must notify a school at least 30 days prior to the day of the standardized test to participate. A school will respond to a request to participate in a reasonable amount of time.
- 5.3.6. Except where a Scholarship Student is partially enrolled in a District school, the District is prohibited from releasing or sharing Scholarship Student results to any entity other than the program manager, the Scholarship Student, or the Scholarship Student's parent.

DEFINITIONS

“**Educator**” means an individual licensed under Utah Code Ann. § 53E-6-104 and who meets the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R277-501.

“**Parent**” means parent or legal guardian.

“**Private school**” means a school that is not a public school but: 1) has a location or space in Utah where teachers have regularly scheduled face-to-face classes with students; 2) has a current business license through the Utah Department of Commerce; 3) is accredited through AdvancEd or another regional accrediting agency; 4) has and makes available a written policy for maintaining and securing student records; 5) charges tuition generally consistent with other private schools in Utah; and 6) employs teachers with licenses, credentials or demonstrable skills and expertise for instructing students’ in Core Curriculum courses or areas.

“**Home school student**” means a student who has been excused from compulsory education and for whom the Davis School District Student and Family Resources Department has issued a compulsory education release.

“**Scholarship Student**” means the same as that term is defined in UCA §53F-6-401; or UCA §53E-7-401.

“**Statewide assessment**” means one or more of the following: a standards assessment described in UCA §53E-303; a high school assessment described in UCA §53E-4-304; a college readiness assessment described in UAC-UCA §53E-4-305; an assessment of students in grade 3 to measure reading grade level described in UCA §53E-4-307

REFERENCES

[Utah Code Ann. Title 53E, Chapter 4, Part 3](#) – Assessment

[Utah Code Ann. §53G-6-803](#) – Parental right to academic accommodations.

[Utah Administrative Code R277-217](#) – Educator Standards and LEA Reporting

[Utah Administrative Code R277-404](#) – Requirements for Assessments of Student Achievement.

[Utah Administrative Code R277-604](#) – Private School, Home School, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Student Participation in Public School Achievement Tests.

FORMS AND OTHER LINKS

[Plan to Administer Statewide Assessments](#)

[Standard Test Administration and Testing Ethics Policy \(USBE\)](#)

[Utah Participation and Accommodations Policy](#)

DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Adopted: March 16, 2004

Revised: May 9, 2006 - Updates to comply with changes in Utah Administrative Code R277-705.

Revised: May 3, 2007 - Technical changes to comply with State Code regarding training and Adult Education.

Revised: September 4, 2007 - Added provisions for students enrolled in private school, electronic high school or home school to participate in public school achievement tests as required by Utah Administrative Code R277-604.

Revised: July 14, 2009 - Updated to comply with state law. Allows substitute exams for UBSCT attempts or successful completion of UBSCT for military children. Added section 7.2.7.

Revised: September 1, 2009 - No content change, renumbered from 4I-414 to 4I-005 with reorganization of Policy Table of Contents.

Revised: July 13, 2010 - Technical changes. Military children section modified. Exemption from administering tenth grade basic skills competency test 2010-11 and 2011-12 school year.

Revised: August 2, 2011 - Amended by consent. Updated language to match amendments to state law and rules; eliminated the UBSCT language until decision is made regarding replacement. Changed name of responsible department to Assessment, Research, and Evaluation.

Revised: May 15, 2012 – Updated with minor revisions made consistent with changes in State law and rule. Modifies guidelines for administering the Board-designated 10th grade test that is replacing the Utah Basic Skills Competency Test (UBSCT).

Revised: September 1, 2015 –Updated parent right to opt student out of testing, procedure for opt out, consequences for opt out. Also, reformatted policy and moved procedures of test administration to District Assessment Plan.

Revised: October 4, 2016 – Revision made to comply with changes in administrative rule. Removed section on Utah Electronic High School Students. Removed section on secondary students needing to enroll in a Core program course to take assessment.

Revised: October 2, 2018 – Updated to comply with change in state law and administrative rule.

Revised: August 6, 2019 – Updated to comply with legislative change HB118. Allows a teacher to use a student's score on assessments to improve the student's academic grade or demonstrate the student's competency.

Revised: October 1, 2024 – 5 year review. Updated to clarify statewide assessment definition and exemption process.