



State of New Jersey  
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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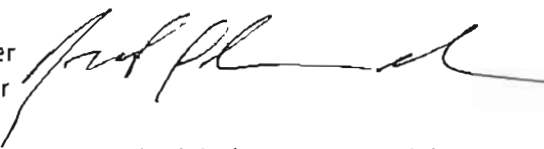
CHRIS CHRISTIE  
 Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
 Lt. Governor

BRET SCHUNDLER  
 Commissioner

April 12, 2010

TO: Chief School Administrators  
 Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Bret Schundler  
 Commissioner 

SUBJECT: Statewide Assessment Schedule for 2010-2011 School Year

The attached Statewide Assessment Schedule lists New Jersey test administration dates for the 2010-2011 school year for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school. There is significant new information for all grade levels. Please review this information carefully. Be sure to check the department website regularly for additional information and updates: <http://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/>.

NEW JERSEY STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE  
 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE 3 TESTING

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK3):* for all third-grade students.

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics Days 1 and 2)

May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

GRADE 4 TESTING

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK4):* for all fourth-grade students.

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics Days 1 and 2, Science)

May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

**GRADE 5 TESTING**

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK5):* for all fifth-grade students.

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics Days 1 and 2)

May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

**GRADE 6 TESTING**

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK6):* for all sixth-grade students.

May 3, 4, 5, 6, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics Days 1 and 2)

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

**GRADE 7 TESTING**

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK7):* for all seventh-grade students.

May 3, 4, 5, 6, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics Days 1 and 2)

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

**GRADE 8 TESTING**

*New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK8):* for all eighth-grade students.

May 3, 4, 5, 6, 2011 Regular Testing (Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2, Mathematics, Science)

May 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2011 Make-up Testing (Flexible; but no more than one content area per student per day)

## HIGH SCHOOL TESTING

### OCTOBER 2010 ADMINISTRATION

*High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA):* for retained eleventh graders, twelfth graders, retained twelfth graders, returning students and adult high school students.

October 5, 6, 7, 2010

Regular Testing (Mathematics and Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2)

October 12, 13, 14, 2010

Make-up Testing (Mathematics and Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2)

### MARCH 2011 ADMINISTRATION

*High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA):* for all first-time eleventh graders, retained eleventh graders, twelfth graders, retained twelfth graders, returning students, and adult high school students.

March 1, 2, 3, 2011

Regular Testing (Mathematics and Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2)

March 8, 9, 10, 2011

Make-up Testing (Mathematics and Language Arts Literacy Days 1 and 2)

### END OF COURSE BIOLOGY TEST

May 17, 18, 2011 (Regular Testing)

May 19, 20, 2011 (Make-up Testing)

### *Who Must Take the Biology Test?*

- All New Jersey public high school students, regardless of grade level, who are enrolled in a first-year biology course any time during the 2010-2011 school year must take the End of Course Biology Test. The following course titles are included as examples:
  - Resource Center Biology
  - ESL Biology
  - General Biology
  - Life Science
  - Foundations in Biology
  - College Prep Biology
  - Honors Biology
  - Accelerated Biology
  - Advanced Placement Biology (see below)
  - Integrated Science (see below)

Additional criteria for participation in the Biology Test:

- Students taking *AP Biology*, without having completed a biology prerequisite, must take the May 2011 Biology Test.
- Students taking *AP Biology*, after having completed biology prerequisite, must not take the May 2011 Biology Test.
- Students taking *Integrated Science* as an alternative to the biology offerings listed above must take the May 2011 Biology Test.
- Students taking *Integrated Science* as a prerequisite course for a biology course must not take the May 2011 Biology Test. These students will take the Biology Test during the school year that they are enrolled in the biology course.
- Students repeating the first-year biology course due to a failing course grade in 2009-2010 must take the May 2011 Biology Test.

END OF COURSE ALGEBRA I TEST

May 23-27, 2011

(Flexible: districts must complete all paper/pencil and online testing within this window)

*Who Must Take the End of Course Algebra I Test?*

- All New Jersey public school students, regardless of grade level, who are enrolled in an Algebra I course or its equivalent any time during 2010-2011 school year, must take the May 2011 Algebra I Test.
- Students repeating the first-year Algebra I course due to a failing course grade in 2009-2010 must take the May 2011 Algebra I Test.

END OF COURSE ALGEBRA II TEST  
(district option only, at district cost)

May 4 – June 1, 2011

(districts may choose testing days within this window)

**ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE**

**New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK)**

The 2011 schedule for the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) in grades 3 through 8 is a three-week testing window covering the calendar period May 2, 2011 through May 20, 2011. As we alerted you last year at this time, the occurrence of religious holidays in April 2011 necessitates a three-week NJ ASK testing window. Districts are urged to plan accordingly.

## High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA)

All first-time eleventh graders will take the High School Proficiency Assessments (HSPA) in mathematics and language arts literacy in March 2011: March 1-3 (regular); March 8-10 (make up). Districts are urged to avoid scheduling in-service or other special events during the period March 1-11, 2011, in the event that weather emergencies require the rescheduling of HSPA testing. All retained eleventh graders, twelfth graders, retained twelfth graders, returning, and adult high school students who have not yet passed both sections of the HSPA must participate in the October 2010 administration and, if necessary, the March 2011 administration.

### ALGEBRA I

In order to accommodate graphing calculator supply issues and to facilitate online testing, the department will provide a one week administration window for the Algebra I Test. The test consists of two parts, one calculator active, the second part calculator inactive. Districts may flexibly schedule the Algebra I testing, as meets their needs, providing that strict test security is maintained. For example, districts may choose to administer the Algebra I Test to half their eligible students on one day, and administer it to the other half the next day. Likewise, districts may choose to administer Part 1 on one day, and Part 2 the next. Districts are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the Algebra I online testing option. At present, the Algebra I and Algebra II Tests are the only assessments available in online form. Please note, however, that the department expects to expand its online testing options in the coming years. Districts are advised to align their Algebra I content with the New Jersey High School Algebra I course content. The course content and related information can be downloaded from the department's website at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/math/alg1content.pdf>.

### Biology

The Biology Test will be a two-day regular administration, along with two make-up testing days. The Biology Test will consist of multiple-choice items and one 45-minute performance task. Districts are advised to align their Biology course offerings with the New Jersey High School Biology/Life Science Syllabus. The syllabus and related information can be downloaded from the department's website at: <http://www.nj.gov/education/aps/cccs/science/>

### High School Assessments and Graduation Requirements

The HSPA will be administered to all first time eleventh graders in March 2011 and March 2012, and will serve as the graduation proficiency test for those students. The department anticipates that the March 2012 administration will be the final HSPA administration to first time eleventh graders; thereafter, the HSPA will be given as a retest administration only to twelfth grade, retained eleventh-grade students, and adult high school students for whom it is their graduation proficiency test of record.

As previously announced, the department will be transitioning from the integrated high school assessment model embodied by the HSPA to a secondary school competency assessment model using end of course competency tests for specific course disciplines. Two of these competency tests, Algebra I and Biology, have been piloted previously among a full student test population.

Starting with the 2010-2011 school year, achieving passing scores on the Algebra I and Biology tests will become graduation requirements for all students taking these courses. An English college-and-career readiness competency test will be administered to eleventh-grade students starting in Spring 2013; test specifications and supporting materials for this new assessment will be developed and field tested over the next two years.

For students who fail these competency tests, retest opportunities and alternate measures will be provided by the department. Students who took Algebra I or Biology in middle school during the 2009-2010 academic year will not have to retest if they achieved a passing course grade. Instead, districts will be asked to certify, prior to graduation and on the basis of multiple available measures, that these students who successfully completed Biology or Algebra I in 2009-2010 are proficient in the subject areas. Students who take Algebra I or Biology in 2010-2011 as tenth graders (i.e., class of 2013) will be required to pass these competency assessments in addition to passing the HSPA. For most students in the graduating class of 2014, and all those thereafter, the high school graduation proficiency test requirement will be met by achieving a proficient score on the Algebra I, Biology, and English college-and-career readiness tests. In keeping with its announced high school transformation policies, the department may introduce additional competency tests over the next several years.

#### **Alternative High School Assessment (AHSA)**

The AHSA will continue to serve those twelfth-grade students who have repeatedly failed the HSPA in one or both content areas. There will be AHSA administration windows in January, April, and July 2011. Full details of the AHSA 2010-2011 administration schedule will be released in coming weeks.

#### **Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA)**

The portfolio-based Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA), for students with severe cognitive disabilities, collects instructional evidence over a designated period. The first evidence collection period runs from September 1, 2010 through November 12, 2010; the second collection period is December 13, 2010 through February 18, 2011.

#### **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**

The next round of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) testing will take place from January 24 through March 4, 2011. The NAEP 2011 assessment will include operational components of reading and mathematics at grades 4 and 8, a science assessment at grade 8, and a computer-based writing assessment at grades 8 and 12. There will also be a NAEP pilot assessment in economics at grade 12. Additional NAEP assessments may be announced as funding permits.

The department appreciates the feedback it receives regarding assessment scheduling. If you have questions or comments regarding the 2010-2011 New Jersey Assessment Schedule, please feel free to contact Timothy Peters, director, Office of State Assessments, at 609-984-7761, or by email at [timothy.peters@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:timothy.peters@doe.state.nj.us).

BS/WS/TP/memo:2010-11testing schedule

Attachment

c:	Members, State Board of Education	Executive County Superintendents
	Senior Staff	County Test Coordinators
	Kim C. Belin	District Test Coordinators
	Timothy Peters	Directors of Approved Private Schools for the Disabled
	Kenneth Figgs	Directors of College-Operated Programs
	Sandra Alberti	Directors of a State Facility
	Mary Jane Kurabinski	NJ LEE Group
	Roberta Wohle	Garden State Coalition of Schools

**New Jersey Assessment Schedule 2010-2011**

<b>September 2010</b>		
1	APA	First evidence collection period begins
<b>October 2010</b>		
5	HSPA	Mathematics
6	HSPA	Language Arts Literacy Day 1
7	HSPA	Language Arts Literacy Day 2
12	HSPA	Make-up Testing Mathematics
13	HSPA	Make-up Testing Language Arts Literacy Day 1
14	HSPA	Make-up Testing Language Arts Literacy Day 2
<b>November 2010</b>		
12	APA	First evidence collection period ends
<b>December 2010</b>		
13	APA	Second evidence collection period begins
<b>January 2011</b>		
24	NAEP	Testing window begins: sampled schools only
<b>February 2011</b>		
18	APA	Second evidence collection period ends
<b>March 2011</b>		
1	HSPA	Mathematics
2	HSPA	Language Arts Literacy Day 1
3	HSPA	Language Arts Literacy Day 2
4	NAEP	Testing window ends: sampled schools only
8	HSPA	Make-up Testing Mathematics
9	HSPA	Make-up Testing Language Arts Literacy Day 1
10	HSPA	Make-up Testing Language Arts Literacy Day 2
<b>May 2011</b>		
3	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Language Arts Literacy Day 1
4	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Language Arts Literacy Day 2
5	NJ ASK 6, 7	Mathematics Day 1

**New Jersey Assessment Schedule 2010-2011**

	NJ ASK 8	Mathematics
6	NJ ASK 6, 7	Mathematics Day 2
	NJ ASK 8	Science
9	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Language Arts Literacy Day 1
	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Make-up Testing
10	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Language Arts Literacy Day 2
	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Make-up Testing
11	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Mathematics Day 1
	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Make-up Testing
12	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Mathematics Day 2
	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Make-up Testing
13	NJ ASK 4	Science
	NJ ASK 6, 7, 8	Make-up Testing
16	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Make-up Testing
17	NJ ASK 3,4, 5	Make-up Testing
	Biology	Regular Testing
18	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Make-up Testing
	Biology	Regular Testing
19	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Make-up Testing
	Biology	Make-up Testing
20	NJ ASK 3, 4, 5	Make-up Testing
	Biology	Make-up Testing
23	Algebra I	Flexible schedule
24	Algebra I	Flexible schedule
25	Algebra I	Flexible schedule
26	Algebra I	Flexible schedule
27	Algebra I	Flexible schedule