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October 4, 2016

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
NJ SMART Contacts

FROM: Katherine Villari, Executive Director
Office of Data Management, Office of Information Technology

SUBJECT: NJ SMART State Assessment Collection

On July 18, the NJ SMART Team announced to all data contacts that **the new State Assessment Registration Submission will be open from October 19 to November 21 at 5 p.m.** The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has streamlined three separate data collections into one collection: The three collections are 1) PARCC Registration Submission; 2) ACCESS for ELLs Pre-ID Submission; and 3) DLM Pre-ID Submission. The new, combined collection is the State Assessment Registration Submission. By combining the data collections, we will achieve two important objectives:

- We will reduce the burden on Local Education Agency data managers and test coordinators; and
- We will improve data quality for all three assessment data sets.

Major statewide Student Information System (SIS) vendors were informed of the impending change during the summer, and details including file specifications were provided to vendors on September 7. For consistency and ease of use, the same (PARCC) file layout from the 2015-16 school year will be used for the State Assessment Registration Submission. Many fields remain consistent and some are adapted from last year's PARCC Registration Submission. Also, note that all Kindergarten-Grade 12 English Language Learners will need to be included in the State Assessment Registration Submission as required under the *Every Student Succeeds Act*, which states that all English Language Learners must be assessed with the ACCESS for ELLs test. Training schedules and additional information is on the [NJ SMART website](#).

As reporting requirements continue to evolve, the NJDOE and the NJ SMART team are committed to reducing burdens and improving data quality wherever possible. We look forward to working with you on the continuous improvement of data practices to benefit all of New Jersey's students.

If you have questions, please contact us at (800) 254-0295 or NJSMART@pcgus.com.

EL/KV

c: Members, State Board of Education
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