STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 19, 2024

To: Local Education Agency Leads, Directors of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route To: District Test Coordinators, District Technology Coordinators, School Test Coordinators

From: Jorden Schiff Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Summer 2024 New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment Key Dates and Information

This memorandum provides local education agencies (LEAs) with key dates and information for the summer 2024 administration of the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA).

Participation in the NJGPA Summer Administration

The summer NJGPA will be administered in-person from July 22 through July 26, 2024. Make-up testing will be administered in-person from July 29 through August 1, 2024. The summer administration of NJGPA provides a retake or initial testing opportunity for students in the class of 2025 and summer graduates in the class of 2024. LEAs must offer targeted support prior to any student retaking one or both components of the assessment.

Students who are eligible to participate in the summer administration of NJGPA include:

- Students who took the NJGPA in spring 2024 but did not meet the minimum 725 cut-score on one or both components of the assessment.
- Students who did not take one or both components of the NJGPA during spring 2024, including but not limited to:
 - Newly arrived multilingual learners who were exempt from taking the English language arts (ELA) component at the time of testing;
 - Students who were absent from school on all testing dates or unable to test due to medical reasons;
 - Students who enrolled in New Jersey public schools after the administration window closed; and
 - Students who were tenth graders based on credit status at the time of spring testing but attained enough credits to transition to twelfth grade credit status at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 regular school year.

Please note, a student must receive a valid score in each component of the NJGPA prior to accessing the Second and/or Third Pathway for that specific component. Class of 2024 summer graduates (students expected to graduate by August 31, 2024) who have not yet received a valid score in one or both components of the NJGPA **must** participate in the summer NJGPA administration. Please see the <u>Graduation Assessment Requirements</u> webpage for more information about each pathway.

Training, Manuals, and Resources

District Test and Technology Coordinators (DTCs) should visit the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources** for access to the training materials, test coordinator and test administrator manuals, and other associated resources that were posted for the spring 2024 administration. Prior to each administration, DTCs are required to familiarize themselves with the responsibilities associated with

their roles, including training test administrators (TAs) on the proper administration of state assessments and ensuring the appropriate technology requirements are in place.

Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) Data Upload

For the summer administration, LEAs must import student data directly to the <u>PearsonAccess^{next}</u> (PAN) platform. The initial upload window for the summer administration will open on **July 1, 2024**. LEAs may continue to make updates to student data prior to and throughout the testing window until the district data clean-up window closes on **August 8, 2024**. Students taking the paper-based versions of the assessments must be included in the student registration upload.

Please take note of the following information:

- Students must be registered under the NJGPA-ELA/Math Summer 2024 scope in PAN.
- For students who attend an out-of-district placement, the testing site, not the accountable school, must register out-of-district students in PAN. It is essential that the correct Accountable District Code and Accountable School Code are used, which will be different from the Testing Site District Code and the Testing Site School Code.
- Charter schools, renaissance school projects, choice schools, and vocational-technical schools (for students who attend full time) are the accountable districts and accountable schools for their students.

Paper Test Materials

All paper-based test materials must be ordered through the additional orders process, which will begin on July 1, 2024 and end on July 26, 2024. After an additional order has been reviewed and approved, it will take approximately four to five business days for materials to be delivered. Tracking information can be found in PAN once materials have been shipped. LEAs must specify the exact number of individual test kits required. As of the spring 2023 administration, answer documents are no longer used for paper-based testing. Instead, students will write their answers in their test booklet. LEAs will set up a transcription session in PAN and transcribe these student responses directly into TestNav by the established deadline. Additional guidance and instructions for the handling of physical test materials and the transcription of student responses are included in the following resources located on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> under Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources:

- 2024 Spring Test Coordinator Manual
- 2024 Spring Test Administrator Manual
- NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Test Procedures (located under Testing Resources)

The NJGPA is a computer-based assessment, and most students should take the assessment on a computer. Students who are unable to use a computer based on a need documented in a valid Section 504 Plan, Individualized Education Program (IEP), or as part of the accommodations defined for multilingual learners will take the assessment using paper and pencil. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will review the SR/PNP uploads and may contact districts to verify the accuracy of the student counts and test delivery modes if anomalies are detected.

Students receiving homebound instruction are not required to take the NJGPA using paper-based versions of the assessment. LEAs have the option of administering the computer-based assessment to students receiving homebound instruction by using a district-supplied portable electronic device and a mobile hotspot. Please review the NJSLA/NJGPA Homebound Test Administration Procedures document for additional information which can be found on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources**.

For more information regarding the summer 2024 NJGPA administration key dates, please review the complete list of summer 2024 NJGPA key dates found on the <u>NJSLA/NJGPA Resources</u> webpage under the heading **Testing Schedule and Key Dates**.

Contact Information

For any questions regarding the summer NJGPA administration, please contact the Office of Assessments at (609) 376-3960 or <u>assessment@doe.nj.gov</u>.

Additional Resources

- <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u>
- PearsonAccess^{next} Online Support
- c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group