Date: August 13, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Directors of Approved Private Schools for Students

with Disabilities

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

Coordinators

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Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Fall 2025 New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment Key Dates and Information

This memorandum provides local education agencies (LEAs) and approved private schools for students with disabilities (APSSDs) with key dates and information for the fall 2025 administration of the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA).

Participation in the NJGPA Fall Administration

The fall administration of NJGPA provides a retake or initial testing opportunity for students who are scheduled to graduate in the class of 2026. The fall NJGPA will be administered in person from October 6 through October 10, 2025. Make-up testing will be administered in person from October 14 through October 17, 2025. All grade twelve students who do not have a valid score on one or both components of the NJGPA must test during this fall 2025 administration. This includes multilingual learners who were newly enrolled in a U.S. school after June 1, 2025 and students who were unable to test for any reason during a previous NJGPA administration. Any student who did not meet the minimum cut-score on one or both components of the assessment during a previous attempt must be offered a retake opportunity. LEAs and APSSDs must offer targeted support prior to any student retaking one or both components of the assessment.

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

- Students who took the NJGPA during a previous administration but did not meet the minimum 725 cut-score on one or both components of the assessment.
- Students in grade twelve who have not yet taken one or both components of the NJGPA are required to test. This includes but is not limited to:
 - Multilingual learners who utilized the one-time English Language Arts (ELA) exemption during their first attempt at NJGPA;
 - Students who were absent from school on all testing dates or unable to test due to medical and/or other 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 2024-2025 regular school year.

Please note that students must receive a valid score in each component of the NJGPA prior to accessing the alternative pathways available to their graduating class for that specific component.

Please see the March 5, 2025 broadcast, <u>Information Regarding the New Jersey Graduation</u>

<u>Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) Cut Scores for the Class of 2026</u>, for information related to

Chapter 8 revisions and graduation assessment pathways available to students beyond the class of 2025. Pending the completion of the re-adoption process, the graduation assessment pathways available beginning with the class of 2026 will be posted on the <u>Graduation Assessment</u>

<u>Requirements</u> webpage.

Please also note that students in grade eleven who are expected to graduate in the class of 2027 must wait until the spring 2026 administration to take the NJGPA for the first time.

Training, Manuals, and Resources

District Test and Technology Coordinators (DTCs) should visit the New Jersey Assessments Resource Center 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 2025 administration. Prior to each administration, DTCs are required to familiarize themselves with the responsibilities associated with their roles, including training test administrators on the proper administration of state assessments and ensuring the appropriate technology requirements are in place.

Please visit the NJGPA webpage on the <u>New Jersey Assessments Resource Center</u> website for additional information such as test content and other resources.

Fall 2025 Technology Preparation

Starting with the Fall NJGPA 2025 administration, all schools utilizing ChromeOS for testing will be required to transition to the new TestNav Web App for ChromeOS. As part of this update, schools must uninstall the legacy TestNav App from ChromeOS testing devices and install the new TestNav App. For additional details, please refer to the UPDATED: TestNav - NEW Chromebook Support for SY 2025–26 technical bulletin.

Please refer to the August 6, 2025 Fall 2025 Technology Preparation PearsonAccess^{next} (PAN) memo that was emailed to PAN users with the District Test Coordinator and/or Technology Coordinator role(s).

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

For the fall administration, LEAs and APSSDs must import student data directly to the <u>PAN</u> platform. The initial upload window for the fall administration will open on **September 2, 2025**. LEAs and APSSDs may continue to make updates to student data prior to and throughout the

testing window until the data clean-up window closes on **October 22, 2025**. 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 New Jersey > 2025-2026 > NJ ELA/Math Fall 2025 scope in PAN. For more details about registering students, refer to the Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) Field Definitions document, available under Support > Documentation 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.
 - Note: If the receiving school is not an approved testing site, the sending LEA must identify themselves as the testing site and create a plan to ensure the student is afforded the opportunity to participate in testing (i.e., send staff to the out-of-district placement site to test the student(s) or bring the student(s) back to their district for testing).
- 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 **September 15, 2025** and end on **October 10, 2025**. 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 and APSSDs must specify the exact number of individual test kits required.

Students will write their answers in their test booklet. LEAs and APSSDs 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 New Jersey Assessments Resource Center under Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources:

- 2025 Spring Test Coordinator Manual
- 2025 Spring Test Administrator Manual
- NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Tests Procedures (located under Testing Resources)

Accommodated Paper Test Procedures

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 LEAs and APSSDs to verify the accuracy of the student counts and test delivery modes if anomalies are

detected. For additional guidance on paper-based testing, please refer to Appendix A: Accessibility Features and Accommodations for Students Taking the Paper-Based NJSLA and NJGPA which can be found on the New Jersey Assessments Resource Center under Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Accessibility Features and Accommodations (AF&A) Resources > Resources.

Homebound Student Test Procedures

Students receiving homebound instruction may be tested using computer-based assessments or paper-based assessments. The mode of testing should be based on individual student need. Computer-based assessments must be administered using a district-supplied portable electronic device and mobile hotspot. Please review the NJSLA/NJGPA Homebound Test Administration Procedures document for additional information which can be found on the New Jersey Assessments Resource Center under Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources. LEAs and APSSDs are encouraged to contact the appropriate state assessment coordinator with questions regarding testing students on homebound/bedside instruction.

For more information regarding the fall 2025 NJGPA administration key dates, please review the complete list of fall 2025 NJGPA key dates found on the <u>NJSLA/NJGPA Resources</u> webpage under the heading **Testing Schedule and Key Dates**.

Tutorials and Practice Tests

LEAs and APSSDs are strongly encouraged to use the tutorials and practice tests available on the New Jersey Assessments Resource Center under Educator Resources. Tutorials familiarize students and educators with the item types, testing tools, accessibility features, accommodations, and test format and/or navigation of TestNav (Computer-Based Testing only) that will be used for the NJGPA. Practice tests provide an opportunity for students to become familiar with the types of items and to respond to test questions similar to the questions students will be asked to answer on each component of the NJGPA. Section 3.5 Schedule Tutorials and Practice Tests of the NJSLA/NJGPA 2025 Spring Test Coordinator Manual includes additional information related to the use of tutorials and practice tests prior to testing.

Contact information

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

Additional Resources

- New Jersey Assessments Resource Center
- PearsonAccess^{next} Online Support

 c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff
 Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group