



BIE Science and Alternate Assessments

Spring 2021



OVERVIEW TRAINING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Session 1: 9:00 a.m. MST

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. Who do I contact for guidance if we are in a remote learning status?	Contact your EPA or ADD: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Navajo: Karen.malone@bie.edu▪ TCS: Cherie.poitra@bie.edu▪ BOS: Hankie.Ortiz@bie.edu▪ BIE Chief Academic Officer: tamarah.pfeiffer@bie.edu
2. Should we order materials even if we are not sure we will be back in-person by April 2021?	Yes. The initial order is automated.
3. Will BIE order the test materials?	<p>Alternate Assessment. Initial materials will be via an automated order based on the initial enrollment completed by the BIE in January 2021. Additional materials may be ordered by TCs via the Order Materials tab in the MSA System prior to testing. Materials are to be securely destroyed on site in accordance with the BIE's policy. Materials will not be returned to Cognia.</p> <p>Science. For BIE Science Assessment, additional materials must be ordered by calling the Cognia Service Desk at 877.676.6722 and dial 2 when prompted. Additional Materials may be ordered after your initial order has been received.</p>

QUESTION	ANSWER
4. For MSAA, do we need to complete any forms prior or upload any required forms if we have students who qualify for MSAA?	No. If any additional information is needed, you will receive notification from BIE.
5. If we have LD students that qualify to take the “Smarter Balance” with accommodations, do we have to use the BIE Alternative Assessment?	Seek guidance from the Special Education Department on who qualifies for the Alternate Assessment. Refer to the student’s IEP or 504 Plan to determine if the student needs to take the general education assessment with accommodations or the alternate assessment. Please refer to the TAM for participation criteria for MSAA.
6. If we are applying for waiver for the state we reside in, do we take both assessments, and how do we handle remote learning and testing?	<p>Contact your EPA or ADD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Navajo: Karen.malone@bie.edu ▪ TCS: Cherie.poitra@bie.edu ▪ BOS: Hankie.Ortiz@bie.edu ▪ BIE Chief Academic Officer: tamarah.pfeiffer@bie.edu
7. Is this assessment for general education students in BIE schools?	The BIE Science assessment is a general education assessment. The BIE Alternate Assessment is for students who qualify to take the Alternate Assessment as determined by the student’s IEP.
8. Is it too late to complete forms for students to take alternate assessments? If not, is there an online registration site we could utilize to submit those forms?	BIE does not require forms for student to take the alternate assessments.
9. Will the Science assessment be administered online or paper?	It will be available both computer-based (online) and paper-based.

QUESTION	ANSWER
10. Is there a practice test available?	<p>Please visit the following sites for practice tests:</p> <p>Alternate Assessment</p> <p>https://www.msaaassessment.org/tap/sample-items</p> <p>Science Assessment</p> <p>https://bie.onlinehelp.cognia.org/practice-tests-nm-asr/</p>
11. Will the Science assessment be renamed?	Yes, that is being worked on.
12. When and who do we inform of the preference for CB or PB testing?	MSAA is an online test with paper accommodations if written into the IEP. Responses must be submitted via the MSAA System. For the 2020-2021 school year, the data has already been collected. Please inform Ethelene.Sandoval@bie.edu of your preference for 2021-2022.
13. Will our SIS transmit all information automatically so that we receive materials for BIE Assessments?	BIE has pulled a file from the SIS or NASIS for the initial materials order. There will be an additional materials order window prior to testing.
14. In previous years in Arizona, we were only required to administer the Science test to Grades 4 and 8. Is the Science test required for certain grade levels?	Science Assessment will be given to students in Grades 5, 8, and 11.
15. Is the paper-based Science test only available to students with disabilities or can it be a school choice to administer it to Grades 5, 8, and 11 online or paper-based?	BIE gathered data on the preference of computer-based or paper-based assessment earlier in the 2020-2021 school year. Please contact Ethelene.Sandoval@bie.edu for your preference for the 2021-2022 school year.
16. Is the Science test a timed test like the BIE ELA and Math Assessment?	Yes, it is.
17. If we already have log in/user with MSAA will we be getting new user info?	Yes, as the old log-in information will not work.

Session 2: 12:00 p.m. MST

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. When can we see the specifics of the assessment program?	<p>Alternate Assessment Full-Review Training is March 4, 2021. Science Assessment Training is February 25, 2021. An invitation is forthcoming.</p> <p>In addition, TCs and TAs will be able to access the online Alternate Assessment Training on March 1, 2021, which contains training modules and manuals for MSAA. For Science, trainings and other preparation support will be available on https://bie.onlinehelp.cognia.org/.</p>
2. Is any student with an IEP eligible for the alternate assessment?	No. The IEP team must determine if the student will take the alternate assessment.
3. Why is there only a 45-day window?	Typically, MSAA administration occurs during a seven-week window. For 2021, the administration window has been extended to nine weeks (03/15/21-05/14/21).
4. Was there a window for ordering the paper materials already? Who needs the paper copies?	Initial orders were automatically generated based on student enrollment completed by BIE in January 2021. BIE is receiving paper test books. All other materials will be available via the MSAA System. Students with paper-version and scribe accommodations in their IEPs may use the paper version of the test. Responses must be submitted via the MSAA System.
5. Are the test coordinators responsible for creating test administrator (TA) accounts in the MSSA System?	Yes. User creation protocol for the MSAA is defined by the BIE.
6. How do we know students with disabilities take the correct/appropriate test?	Check the student's IEP. Seek guidance from the Special Education Department if you have questions regarding eligibility. Also, please refer to the TAM for participation criteria for MSAA. The MSAA System will indicate which "Stage 2" version will be administered to students after Stage 1 has been completed.

QUESTION	ANSWER
7. Will there be test coordinator specific training?	<p>Alternate Assessment Full-Review Training is March 4, 2021. Science Assessment Training is February 25, 2021. An invitation is forthcoming.</p> <p>In addition, TCs and TAs will be able to access the online Alternate Assessment Training on March 1, 2021, which contains training modules and manuals for MSAA. For Science, trainings and other preparation support will be available on https://bie.onlinehelp.cognia.org/.</p>
8. What is the best test materials for this assessment during this pandemic—computer based or paper based?	<p>The test cannot be delivered remotely. Therefore, what the school has done in the past would be the best option.</p> <p>The BIE Science Assessment is considered a secure test and must be kept in a secure location. Therefore, all testing paper-based or computer-based must be done at the school.</p>
9. Our school is in MN, which has its own state standards and assessment for Science instruction. If the test is the NM state test, should we be instructing our Science staff to use NM standards to guide their instruction?	No. The NM Science Assessment is based on Next Generation Science Standards. Because of contracting issues, the name of the test could not be revised for printing for the 2020-2021 school year. The BIE name will appear on future BIE Science assessments.
10. How are students rostered? Do you automatically pull names from NASIS or are test coordinators responsible for sending rosters?	BIE will upload an initial roster from NASIS. Then, schools will have the opportunity to edit the information based on user roles.
11. When will Science practice test items be available?	Practice test are available via support service site https://bie.onlinehelp.cognia.org/practice-tests-nm-asr/
12. What is MSAA?	Multi-State Alternate Assessment

Session 3: 2:00 p.m. MST

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. Is there more than one version of the Alternate Assessment for higher functioning vs. lower skills students?	No. Any student with the alternate assessment designation in his or her IEP will take the BIE Alternate Assessment.

2. Will these assessments replace AzMerit, at least for Arizona?	Yes
3. Who do we send the names to for the staff that need access to the Alternate Assessment?	Please complete the assessment test coordinator form from the CAO Office. Contact ethelene.sandoval@bie.edu .
4. Can there be more than one test coordinator? One for science and one for MSAA?	Yes. Please complete the assessment test coordinator form from the CAO Office. Contact ethelene.sandoval@bie.edu .
5. Will you be uploading rosters, or will schools enter them?	BIE is uploading initial rosters. Schools can edit the information based on user roles.

Post-Training Survey Questions

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. Will forms be available to address various issues that may occur be provided?	Yes. A matrix will be provided with information for help on various issues.
2. How and when do I order testing materials? Where do I send them after they are finish?	Alternate Assessment. Initial materials will be via an automated order based on the initial enrollment completed by the BIE in January 2021. Additional materials may be ordered by TCs via the Order Materials tab in the MSAA System prior to testing. Materials are to be securely destroyed on site in accordance with the BIE's policy. Materials will not be returned to Cognia. Science. For BIE Science Assessment, additional materials must be ordered by calling the Cognia Service Desk at 877.676.6722 and dial 2 when prompted. Additional Materials may be ordered after your initial order has been received.
3. How do you download and then upload the students and what information?	BIE will upload an initial roster from NASIS. Then, schools will have the opportunity to edit the information based on user roles.
4. How do we prepare implementation?	Information on implementation and training will be e-mailed to TCs and TAs for preparation.

Help Desks

BIE	BIE Science Assessment	BIE Alternate Assessment	UDPSI
<p>For questions or information regarding polices of testing procedures:</p> <p>Dr. Maureen Lesky, Program Analyst: Maureen.Lesky@bie.edu</p> <p>Aurelia Shorty, Education Specialist in ADD Navajo: AureliaShorty@bie.edu</p>	<p>For questions or information regarding the testing platform/portal, training modules and resources, managing organizations and users:</p> <p>877.676.6722 (when prompted, press 2 for BIE Assessments)</p> <p>BIETechsupport@cognia.org</p>	<p>The Service Center is available to answer questions about the MSAA Online Assessment System and test administration procedures:</p> <p>866.834.8879</p> <p>MSAAServiceCenter@cognia.org Click to Chat</p>	<p>For general test administration assistance:</p> <p>www.udpsi.com/bie-assessments.html</p> <p>deborah@udpsi.com</p> <p>877.987.2580</p>