

Statewide Summative Assessment Guidance for Students Receiving Instruction at Virtual Learning Academies

Purpose

This document provides guidance regarding the role of Virtual Learning Academies (VLA) and enrolled schools in the administration of statewide summative assessments during the spring of 2021.

Summative Testing Participation

Federal requirements for SY21 summative assessment administration have not changed, although there has been flexibility granted for accountability purposes. Please see the [2021 Statewide Summative Test Administration Guidance](#) for details on statewide summative test administration in Vermont, and the most recent [announcement on statewide assessment](#) from the US Department of Education. Students enrolled in a public school and/or funded through public funding will be required to participate in statewide summative assessments, as per usual.

School Responsibilities in Summative Test Administration for Students in Virtual Academies

For 2021 all statewide summative assessments will be administered in person. It is the school's responsibility to provide valid and appropriate opportunities for their enrolled students to assess. It will be important to clearly communicate to remote learners and their families about testing and the importance of participation.

Fully remote students receiving instruction through schools' virtual academies are required to test in person. Virtual academies will need to coordinate and communicate schedule adjustments that will allow remote students to attend the scheduled test administration at the school, as well as access the practice test in advance of the testing date. This coordination should include the school sharing with the virtual academy platform provider, virtual academy teacher(s)/ coordinator, student, and caregiver scheduled testing dates for individual remote students, in advance.

Schools operating virtual academies will need to consider the needs of students receiving fully remote instruction who require additional supports, and how those supports might change in the in-person testing environment. This may include specific recommendations around feasibility to assess in person or instructions to provide adequate safety and assessment accommodations for students who are medically fragile and students with significant cognitive

Contact Information:

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disabilities. Please see the [2021 Statewide Summative Test Administration Guidance](#) for additional details on reporting non-participation.

In Person Testing of Fully Remote Students from Multiple Schools within the Same SU

If a SU or SD has a teacher that instructs remote students from multiple schools across the SU they may meet in person with students from multiple schools at a single school or other appropriate common location to administer statewide assessments.

How:

The teacher from the SU (who has credentials from the SU/School in TIDE) meets in person at a single location with students from multiple schools within the SU to provide an in person testing opportunity.

For this type of arrangement to take place, the teacher and the students must arrive at the location and all students must already have the secure browser downloaded onto their computers. The teacher must start the appropriate testing session, which will generate a session ID. The students will then log in to their accounts, and the teacher will provide the students with the session ID. The students will enter the ID, along with their name, to log into the test session. The teacher will approve each student as they enter the test session. The students will then be able to take their tests.

Note: All guidance related testing security and safety and wellness during the COVID-19 pandemic must be followed.

Accessing Student Results from Multiple Schools within the Same SU

If there is a teacher that instructs remote students from multiple schools across the SU they will need credentials in TIDE from each school that their students are enrolled in to be able to access all of the students results. Once they have credentials in each of those schools, they will need their students added to their roster to enable them to view their students' results on the statewide assessments. The District Test Administrator (DA) is able to provide credentials for multiple schools for teachers that require this.

Questions

If you have questions about the role and responsibilities of VLAs or schools in this year's statewide summative assessments, please contact:

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- General Assessments
- Interim Assessments
- Tools for Teachers

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- Alternate Assessments
- Testing Accommodations
- Special Populations