

New York's Transition to Computer-Based Testing

December 12, 2016



New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

Grades 3-8 ELA & Math Assessments



- The design for the 2017 paper-based tests will be exactly the same as the 2016 tests.
- The tests will have the same number and types of questions and will measure the same standards, allowing for 2016 to 2017 comparisons.
- The 2017 tests, both computer-based and print-based, will have the same questions.
- Comparability studies will be available to measure student test-format differences.



Grades 3-8 ELA & Math Assessments



Public schools/districts, nonpublic schools, and charter schools have the option to administer Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics operational tests and standalone field tests on paper or computer.





CBT in 2015-16 (Field Testing)

- 800+ schools and 60,000 students participated
- Participation from schools in every county in NY
- Overall, very few technology issues
- Comparability Study is being conducted
- Feedback was gathered online and by statewide focus groups





CBT in 2016-17



- Schools may participate in Operational and/or Field Testing on Computer.
- For Operational Testing, schools may participate in any or all subjects and grades in which the school is testing.
- At the request of school administrators, the CBT operational test-administration window has been increased to 6 days to allow schools to administer different grade levels on different days.
- Schools that choose operational CBT must:
 - Verify Technology Readiness
 - Score constructed responses entered on a computer on a computer-based scoring platform (such as ScorePoint)



Tech Readiness Measurement



- Questar is collecting data from schools through an online "Tech Readiness Checklist" that outlines eight technology-related requirements that schools/districts must verify.
- NYSED will combine the data from the Tech Readiness Checklist with the office of Educational Design and Technology (ED&T) data submitted in district Instructional Technology Plans, which are required per Section 100.12 of Commissioner's Regulations to assess NYS school/district technological preparedness.



Enhancements to the CBT Platform for 2016-17

- Questar's CBT platform is called Nextera.
- Teacher and administrator feedback informed priorities for system enhancements.
- Student experience is the top concern.
- Educators, families, and students can see and try out the updated system through the Question Sampler, available online.



https://ny-practice.nextera.questarai.com



School/District CBT Readiness Efforts



- Regional trainings, webinars, video tutorials
- Online Technology Readiness tools
- Manuals and other online documentation
- Outreach to the Field: Presentations, work groups, regular calls and check-ins
- Educator- and Parent-facing brochures
- Technical site visits by Questar Information Technology (IT) staff



CBT Timeline, 2016-17





* Includes Continuous Communication & Outreach to the Field.



Grades 3-8 ELA & Math Assessments, New Standards



 When the new NYS Learning Standards are adopted by the Board of Regents, the design for the test will be completely revisited.

 The new test design will first be implemented tentatively in 2019.

