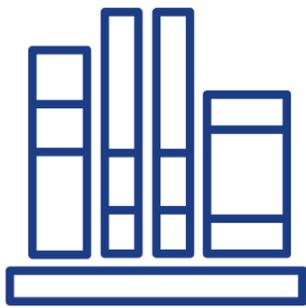


UTAH SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT FAQ 2020-2021



WILL SUMMATIVE STATE ASSESSMENTS BE REQUIRED THIS YEAR?

Yes, teachers have been administering state assessments throughout the year and the spring summative assessment will be administered in 2020-2021 to the greatest extent possible. The federal government's Department of Education has indicated that it is not inclined to approve assessment administration waivers.

WILL SUMMATIVE STATE ASSESSMENTS COUNT ON SCHOOL GRADES OR ACCOUNTABILITY?

No, the Utah State Board of Education has applied for both federal and state accountability waivers. These accountability waivers are expected to be approved soon by both the U. S. Department of Education and the Utah State Legislature. A waiver from state accountability would remove the requirement to report a grade on the school report card.



WHY TEST?

The results and data of statewide summative assessments administered during the 2020-2021 school year will help LEAs to quantify and understand the academic impact of the pandemic.

HOW MIGHT THE DATA BE USED?

The assessment data is useful for classroom educators to inform their instruction for the following year. Policy makers at the state and federal level utilize summative assessment data to properly allocate limited resources, adjust related policies, ensure equity, and work collaboratively to support Utah teachers. The 2020-2021 summative assessment data, coupled with the Opportunity to Learn (OTL) information, will help policy makers with these efforts. OTL questions can be found at [https://schools.utah.gov/coronavirus/Effects on Learning](https://schools.utah.gov/coronavirus/Effects%20on%20Learning) section.



WHAT WILL BE REPORTED?

Student and classroom score reports will be available to educators after testing. USBE will also generate reports on participation rates, results of the OTL survey, and impacts on student achievement.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT USBE'S EFFORTS TO UNDERSTAND COVID-19 EFFECTS ON LEARNING?

More information about the Utah State Board of Education's efforts to understand the effects of the pandemic on student academic achievement and growth, and the role various state assessments can play in that effort, can be found at <https://schools.utah.gov/coronavirus>.



“The challenges posed by this crisis only underscore the value of collecting and reporting on a standard measure of student performance. Leaders should not have to continue to steer recovery efforts in the dark, and families and communities should be able to access the information they deserve about how schools are serving all students.”

-Assessment Coalition Letter to ED 7.30.20

https://dataqualitycampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Assessment-Coalition-Letter-to-ED_7.30.20.pdf