

Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)
Assessments Participation
2022-2023 School Year

In order to ensure consistent policies across reporting systems, the Department of Education has established the following rules to determine: (1) who is expected to take statewide assessment(s), and (2) who counts as a participant in statewide assessment(s).

DeSSA ELA/Literacy and Mathematics Summative: Grades 3–8

- (1) Expected: Any student enrolled in a Delaware public school during the testing window unless they are new to the state and are enrolled during the last two weeks of the window.
- (2) Participant: A student counts as a participant when at least 1 item is answered on each portion (CAT and PT) of the test and the student receives a valid score. A student who only logs in and answers one part of the test (CAT or PT, not both) is a non-participant.

DeSSA SAT EBRW/Math/Essay: Grade 11

DeSSA PSAT: Grade 10

- (1) Expected: Any student enrolled during the School Day administration of the PSAT or SAT.
- (2) Participant: A student counts as a participant when enrolled during the administration of the PSAT or SAT (School Day and/or Make-up Day) and answers at least 1 item in each of section and receives a valid score.

DeSSA Science: Grades 5, 8, HS Biology

DeSSA Social Studies: Grade 8 operational; grades 4 & 6 field test

- (1) Expected: Any student enrolled in a Delaware public school during the testing window unless they are new to the state and are enrolled during the last two weeks of the window.
- (2) Participant: A student counts as a participant when at least 1 item is answered on the assessment and the student receives a valid score.

DeSSA-ALT ELA/Math: Grades 3-8, 11**DeSSA-ALT Science: Grades 5, 8, 10**

- (1) Expected: Any student enrolled in a Delaware public school during the testing window unless they are new to the state and are enrolled during the last two weeks of the window.*
- (2) Participant: A student counts as a participant when at least 1 item is answered on each of the assessments and the student receives a valid score.

DeSSA ACCESS: Grades K-12

- (1) Expected: Any identified MLL student enrolled in a Delaware public school during the ACCESS testing window unless they are new to the state and enrolled during the last two weeks of the window.
- (2) Participant: A student counts as a participant when they answer at least 1 item for each domain.

[ACCESS Attemptedness Criteria](#)**Additional Information**

- If students have a valid exemption for any DeSSA assessments, then they will not be included in the participation calculation. See [Exemption Policy](#)
- Nonpublic school students, both home school and private, are not allowed to take the state tests. Students must be enrolled in a public district/school to receive such services.

* Homebound students will test with a paper/pencil version of the test administered by a trained school test administrator. There is not a paper/pencil test for DeSSA-Alt, therefore homebound DeSSA-Alt students are exempt. Schools must submit documentation to support their request for exemption, if applicable.