The Ohio Department of Education assessment staff is pleased to report session times for this year's administration of Ohio's New State Tests. These are the PARCC tests in mathematics and English language arts and the science and social studies tests developed for Ohio by AIR. A chart outlining both PARCC and AIR sessions follows.

PARCC has determined it had allotted far more time for the spring field tests than schools needed to use. That means PARCC was able to schedule shorter session times for this year's mathematics and English language arts tests without threatening the validity and reliability of the tests. We know that time is precious in your classrooms. These shorter session times will make scheduling easier and can reduce the number of testing days.

Keep in mind that extra time can be provided for students with disabilities and English language learners if determined by your district or school. PARCC will reconsider all the session times after the spring 2015 administration to decide whether adjustments are needed for 2016.

Each PARCC mathematics and English language arts end-of-course test has two parts: a performance-based assessment (PBA) and an end-of-year test (EOY). In the performance-based assessment, students construct their responses and a trained education professional scores them. In the end-of-year test, student responses are computer scored.

In the PARCC chart below, the number of minutes that must be provided to any student to complete the test is expressed as **Unit Time**. This is because PARCC has taken one test and broken it into chunks, or units, that offer districts scheduling flexibility. This approach also allows instruction to take place between units. *Department staff members suggest that you schedule a student for no more than two units in one day.* Schools also must plan time for set up, which may vary from school to school.

Estimated Time on Task is the approximate amount of time in which the majority of students are likely to complete a unit. This time is based on spring field test data and is only for your information.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATH – PARCC

2014-2015 Tests		Part 1			Part 2	
		PBA Unit 1	PBA Unit 2	PBA Unit 3	EOY Unit 1	EOY Unit 2
Grade 3 ELA	**Unit Time**	75	75	60	75	-
	Est. Time on Task	50	50	40	50	-
Grade 3 Math	**Unit Time**	75	75		75	75
	Est. Time on Task	50	50		50	50
Grades 4-5 ELA	**Unit Time**	75	90	60	75	-
	Est. Time on Task	50	60	40	50	-

		PBA Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	EOY Unit 1	Unit 2
Grades 4-5 Math	**Unit Time**	**80**	**70**		**75**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*55*	*50*		*50*	*50*
Grades 6-8 ELA	**Unit Time**	**75**	**90**	**60**	**60**	**60**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*60*	*40*	*40*	*40*
Grades 6-8 Math	**Unit Time**	**80**	**70**		**80**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*55*	*50*		*60*	*50*
ELA I and II	**Unit Time**	**75**	**90**	**60**	**60**	**60**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*60*	*40*	*40*	*40*
Algebra I Geometry Integrated Math I, II	**Unit Time**	**90**	**75**		**80**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*60*	*50*		*60*	*50*

The chart below indicates the amounts of time AIR has allotted for Ohio's new social studies and science tests. This is the number of minutes every school must schedule. Some students may finish ahead of time. Again, schools also must plan time for set up, which may vary from school to school.

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE – AIR

2014-2015 Tests		**PBA Unit 1**	**EOY Unit 1**
Grade 4 Social Studies	**Unit Time**	**75**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*50*
Grade 5 Science	**Unit Time**	**75**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*50*
Grades 6 Social Studies	**Unit Time**	**75**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*50*
Grade 8 Science	**Unit Time**	**75**	**75**
	Est. Time on Task	*50*	*50*

American Government	**Unit Time**	**90**	**90**
	Est. Time on Task	*60*	*60*
American History	**Unit Time**	**90**	**90**
	Est. Time on Task	*60*	*60*
Physical Science	**Unit Time**	**90**	**90**
	Est. Time on Task	*60*	*60*

Anticipated release dates for PARCC key resources:

Test administration manuals are streamlined with clearer language. Manuals customized for each grade band will replace the one large test manual for all grades used in the field tests. This means teachers will not have to sift through lengthy instructions not intended for them.

Fall block schedule test administration manuals will be available in mid-October for high schools administering state tests in December and January with paper-based forms only.

Spring 2015 test administration manuals will be available in early January 2015.

Test coordinator manuals will be available on the same timeline as the administration manuals.

A technology guidelines update will be posted for PARCC assessments in late fall 2014.

Practice Tests will be posted this fall and winter: Part 1 performance-based practice tests in math and Part 2 end-of-year practice tests in English language arts/literacy at Practice Tests Web page (www.parcconline.org/practice-tests).

Anticipated release dates for AIR key resources:

Test administration manuals provide general information about the science and social studies tests and specific information about administering the spring 2015 tests. They will be available through the Portal in January.

Test coordinator manuals provide information to district and building test coordinators on the responsibilities and procedures for the spring 2015 science and social studies tests. They include information on both paper-pencil testing and online testing and will be available through the Portal in January.

Technology guidelines are posted to the Ohio Computer-Based Assessment Portal at the following link: http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/. AIR will release a detailed installation guide and the *Technical Specifications Manual* in November.

Student registration for the spring 2015 administration runs Oct. 27-Nov. 7. The On-Time Order Window opens in TIDE for online administrations. Districts must order paper materials for the science and social studies Part 1 performance-based tests during this window. The Pre-ID Window opens in TIDE for online administrations on Oct. 27 as well.

Practice Tests will be available in October: Part 1 performance-based practice tests in science and social studies and Part 2 end-of-year practice tests in science and social studies at http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/.