



# Interim Measure of Student Success and Achievement (iMSSA)

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## What is an Interim Assessment?

Interim assessments are assessments administered during instruction to evaluate students' knowledge and skills relative to a specific set of academic goals, in order to inform educator and policymaker decisions at the classroom, school, and district levels. The specific designs of the interim assessment are driven by the purpose and intended uses, but the results of any interim assessment must be aggregable for reporting across students, occasions, and concepts.

## Why is it important?

Interim assessments provide a roadmap to rigorous teaching and learning and measure student progress while there is still time to act and impact student achievement. These tools are used to gauge student progress over time and to identify trends and patterns in students' understanding to inform instructional planning. Importantly, they provide immediate reporting for instructional impact at the outset of the school year. Reports include information on individual strengths and areas for improvement by content area. As interims are administered throughout the year, they support continued decision making, imperative given the uncertain landscape for the upcoming school year.

## How does this connect to reentry in fall 2020?

Now, more than ever, schools and districts need tools to assess student understanding at the beginning of the school year. Interim assessments not only provide information about student learning needs, they also can identify students in need of additional support. Additionally, when used by multiple teachers or in multiple classrooms, interim assessments can more broadly inform areas of strength, improvement, and trends in student performance, informing programmatic priorities and resource allocation.

## What is available to New Mexico schools?

As schools begin to prepare for student reentry in the fall, NM PED is dedicated to supporting teaching and learning through high-quality interim assessments, available to all NM public schools, at no cost to the school or district. These tools, which are aligned to NM's rigorous content standards, are also aligned with the state summative assessments, allowing for consistent, streamlined information on student progress. While LEAs have flexibility to determine whichever interim solutions best suit their needs, Interim Measure of Student Success and Achievement (iMSSA) assessments are available for beginning-, middle-, and end-of-year administration windows set by PED in grades 3-8, Reading, Writing & Language Usage, and Math.

iMSSA assessments:

- Track and predict student performance and growth toward grade-level proficiency
  - Identify students who need additional attention
  - Evaluate curricular programs
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- Are aligned to New Mexico Content Standards and the NM-MSSA
- Provide immediate reporting for instructional impact
- Contain two 20–35-minute sections in each test; flexible administration in one or two sittings
- Use the same online delivery system as the Cognia Formative Assessments and summative NM-MSSA
- Report an overall score and achievement level and a growth measure demonstrating students' progress
- Report subscore achievement levels indicate students' particular strengths and areas for improvement in each subject area
- Provide early insight into progress toward college readiness

## How to access iMSSA

Coordinators, administrators, and students will access the iMSSA assessments using the same portal that is used for the NM-MSSA summative assessment.

- District test coordinators will provide account access for other test administrators within the district by logging in at <https://newmexico.measuredprogress.org>. Test administrators will use the portal to schedule students for the assessments and assign accommodations at <https://newmexico.measuredprogress.org>.
- Students will then be able to log in and take the assessment using an internet browser, at <https://newmexico.measuredprogress.org/student/>

For more information on use of the portal and other key topics, see the New Mexico Help and Support site: <https://newmexico.onlinehelp.cognia.org/imssa/>.