

Spring 2023 FAQs

New Mexico Measures of Student Success and Achievement (NM-MSSA)

Last Updated 4/3/2023.

General Assessment Questions

- Do I have to order my online testing materials using the online ordering tool?
 - Only paper materials need to be ordered. Online testing needs are identified during the pre-ID process and do not need to be manually ordered.

- How will I receive labels for my paper testers?
 - There was a window for DTCs to identify paper testers in the iTester online portal from January 26 through February 3, 2023.
 - If you missed that window and did not identify any paper testers during the above time window, you will not receive printed pre-ID labels with the shipment of your paper test materials.
 - If you have paper testers who do not receive a pre-ID label, follow the instructions in the Test Administrator's Manual (TAM) to fill in the student information on the answer document using the bubbles on the biogrids.

- Are there tutorials for each of the different content areas and item types?
 - The practice test is available at <https://newmexico.onlinehelp.cognia.org/practice-tests-nm-mssa/>. It contains items for grades 3-8 in ELA, SLA, and math. Each item type that will be present on the operational assessment is present in the practice test. This is the resource for practicing all item types.

- Should my students who are scheduled to take a DLM assessment also be scheduled for a NM-MSSA assessment?
 - No. Please be sure that any students scheduled for DLM are not scheduled to take an

assessment for NM-MSSA. This will avoid any duplicate records during reporting windows.

- Do I need to return Manuals after testing?
 - No. Manuals are non-secure and do not need to be returned; Districts/schools may choose to destroy them or recycle as they see fit. Districts and schools only return test booklets and answer documents.

- Are the sessions testing times shown in the manuals recommended times?
 - Yes. The NM-MSSA is an untimed test. Suggested times are provided to assist with scheduling. The suggested testing times for the 2023 assessments are listed in tables in the TCM and TAM.

NM-MSSA Session Testing Times

Subject(s)	Session	Estimated Testing Time (Minutes)	Calculator Status by Section
Mathematics Grades 3–8	Session 1	60	Non-calculator
	Session 2	60	Calculator
ELA Grades 3–8	Session 1	60	
	Session 2	90	
SLA Grades 3–8	Session 1	60	
	Session 2	90	

Practice Test Questions

- When will the practice test be available?
 - The practice test is now available at <https://newmexico.onlinehelp.cognia.org/practice-tests-nm-mssa/>. This includes the online version and downloadable paper-based forms.
- Is there a manual for the practice test?
 - There is a [downloadable manual](#) to accompany the practice test. Along with the manual you will also need to print out the supplemental instructions page for paper-based testers.

ELA Questions

- Will the scoring rubrics for writing prompts be made available?
 - The [Writing Assessment Resources for Teachers](#) document on the Help and Support site contains the rubrics as well as many other resources.
- When is Text-to-speech (TTS) available on the NM-MSSA ELA online assessment?
 - For MSSA ELA, TTS is only available for session 2. Session 1 tests reading skills and, therefore, does not have TTS for online testing. Session 2 tests writing prompts and language usage and, therefore, allows students to access TTS for online testing.
- For students with an IEP that provides an accommodation for a test to be read to the student, is Text-to-speech (TTS) available on session 1 of the NM-MSSA ELA test?
 - No. TTS is not available for any student on session 1 of the NM-MSSA ELA test. If an IEP provides an accommodation for a test to be read to the student, a human reader will be needed for session 1 of the online test.

Math Questions

- What is the calculator policy for the spring 2023 NM-MSSA math assessment?
 - The [calculator policy](#) is posted on the Help and Support page under [Additional Resources](#).
- Will there be reference sheets on the math assessment?
 - No, there are no reference sheets for the math assessment.
- Will there be rulers and protractors available for the math assessment?
 - Items needing the use of protractors or rulers have images built into the item itself. There are no separate rulers or protractors used for the math assessment.