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Bureau Chief
Office of State Assessment

October 2021

TO: Principals of Public, Religious, and Independent Schools
Leaders of Charter Schools

CBT. The following information provides additional details for schools to consider prior to placing their request.

CBT Simulations

All operational CBT schools will be required to participate in a Statewide CBT Simulation. This year, there will be one CBT Simulation Period held from Monday, January 10, 2022 through Friday, January 14, 2022. Schools can choose which day(s) they want to participate but schools must participate in at least one day of the Statewide Simulation Period in order to administer operational tests with CBT in Spring 2022. The operational test request will be converted to paper-based testing (PBT) if a school that requested operational testing with CBT fails to participate in a simulation during the Simulation Period.

The simulations enable schools to test the performance of the most up-to-date version of the Questar (the Secure Browser within the school network and to identify any improvements the school can make to streamline operational CBT testing procedures this spring. In addition, participation in the simulations prior to testing affords teachers and students the opportunity to practice and strengthen Schools can

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- *Test Read Booklets (ELA and Mathematics Only)*: ELA and Mathematics regular edition tests are spiraled such that the students in a school will be testing on different forms. When placing requests, schools will be asked to enter the *total* number of students who have the accommodation of Test Read. When placing requests for the mathematics tests, also

materials when the test shipment is received. The shrink-wrapped packages of secure test materials must **not** be opened during the inventory. All secure test materials must remain sealed until the test administration date (with the exception of the materials needed to conduct the orientation for administrators of the science performance tests). The shrink-wrapped packages of the science station diagrams may be opened when the stations for the performance test are being set up.

STAND-ALONE FIELD TESTS

The stand-alone field tests (SAFTs) in ELA, mathematics, and science will be administered by schools during the Spring of 2022. Schools will have the option of administering the SAFTs either by paper or computer. All selected schools are required to participate in stand-alone field testing, either on paper or by computer. Choosing to participate in computer-based stand-alone field testing provides the opportunity for schools to assess their technology readiness for CBT and provides administrators, teachers, and students an opportunity to become familiar with CBT in a low-stakes testing environment.

Schools will select their preference for paper or computer field tests in the online examination request system. The field test format preference (paper or computer) selected applies to all three content areas: ELA, mathematics, and science. Schools may change their selection up until December 10, 2021.

Please note the Spring 2022 Elementary- and Intermediate-Level Science Stand-Alone Field Tests will be aligned to the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards.

As with paper-based stand-alone field testing, when participating in computer-based stand-alone field testing, each school will be assigned by the Department to test a specific grade and content area in order to ensure that the needed representative sampling of New York State students is achieved. It is not possible for schools to select a grade or content area for stand-alone field testing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding the requesting, storing, and administering of the Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics Tests, the Grade 4 and Grade 8 Science Tests, and information on computer-based testing and field testing, please contact the Operations Group at 518-474-8220 or via e()TjETQq0 0 612 792 reW*nBT/TT1 11.04 Tf