



DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

*Presentation to the Education Subcommittee of the  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means*

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# Student Assessments: Background

## Student Assessments Overview

- Student assessments are required by ORS 329.485 and federal law.
- ODE is responsible for establishing content standards that contain descriptions of what students should know and be able to do. Assessments measure what they know using these standards as the basis for the assessments.
- Test results are used as part of state and federal accountability, school and district improvement processes, and state performance measures; as a source of evidence for the assessment of essential skills requirement of the high school diploma; and eventually as a measure for educator evaluation.
- The current state system is known as “OAKS” (Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills), a system developed and managed by staff in the Office of Learning and built to assess the old Oregon Standards. OAKS was developed in 2001.
- The state’s current assessment and accountability program is supported by General Fund and federal funds:
  - ✓ \$11 million per biennium from a federal assessment grant; and
  - ✓ Approximately \$5 million per biennium from General Fund.



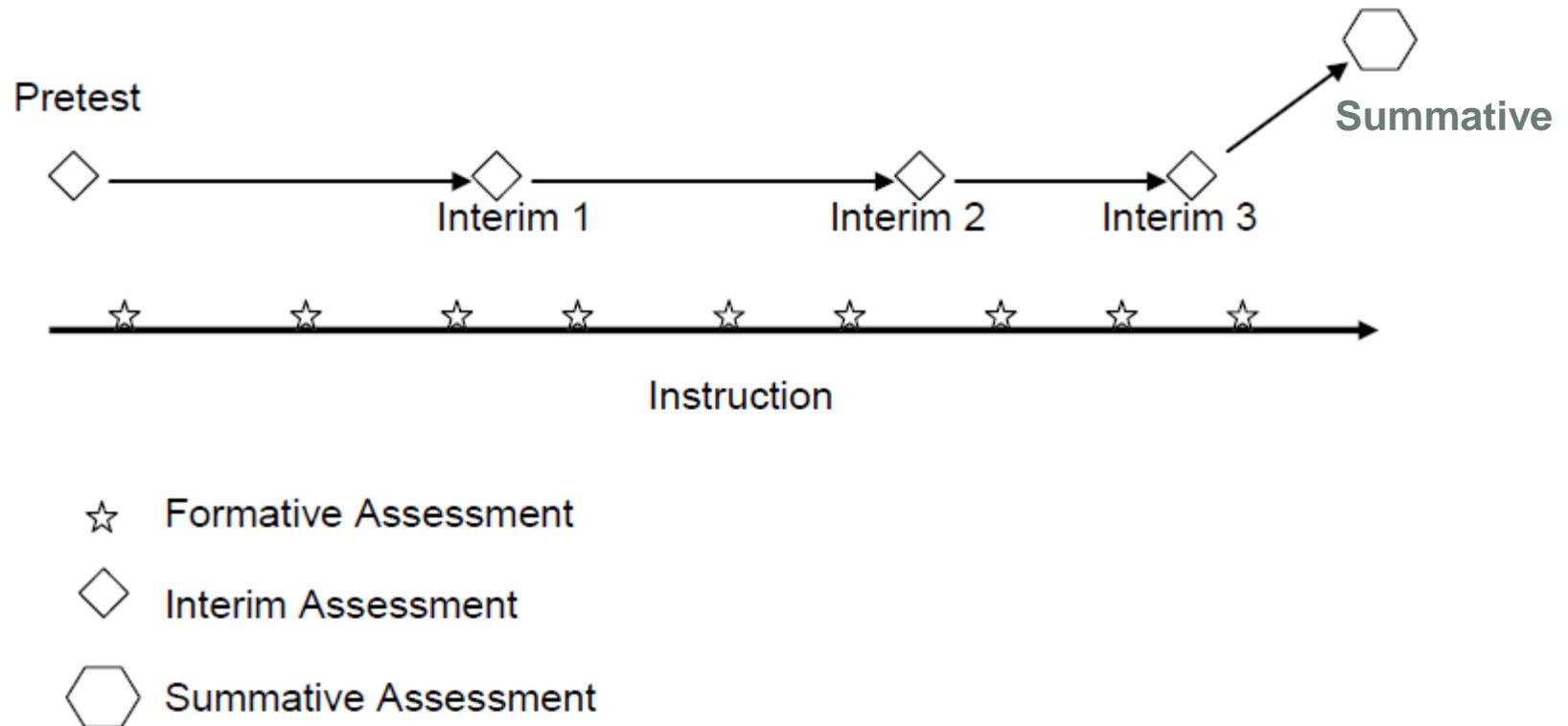
## Current State and Federally Required Assessments

Subject	Grades	Number of Students Tested in 2012-13	Number of Tests* Administered in 2012-13
Math	3-8, 11	323,057	487,085
Reading	3-8, 11	314,149	446,202
Writing	4,7,11	44,200	44,746
Social Sciences	5,8,11	9,039	10,693
Science	5,8,11	135,612	174,484
English Language Proficiency	K-12	53,661	53,668
Extended	3-8, 11	6,623	14,197

\*OAKS Assessments allow multiple test opportunities per student (up to 3 per student for high school and up to 2 per student for grades 3 - 8).

➤ Additionally, approximately 40,000 10<sup>th</sup> grade students take the PSAT/ACT.

## Formative, Interim, and Summative Assessments



# Smarter Balanced: Adoption Process

# Workgroup Members

## Participants in the workgroup included:

- ✓ Catherine Carlson - Salem-Keizer School District
- ✓ Nina Carlson - Oregon PTA
- ✓ Toya Fick - Stand for Children
- ✓ Dan Gaffney - Seaside
- ✓ Dawn Granger - Coos Bay School District
- ✓ Gerald Hamilton - State Board of Education
- ✓ Rep. Betty Komp - Legislator
- ✓ Nanette Lehman - Baker School District (Teacher of the Year)
- ✓ Pedro Marquez - Woodburn School District
- ✓ George Mendoza - Morrow County School District
- ✓ Art Paz - State Board of Education
- ✓ Scott Peterson - Oregon State University
- ✓ Lisa Reynolds - Community Colleges and Workforce Development
- ✓ Cheryl Williamson - Centennial

## Assessment Options Mapped to Workgroup Requirements

Requirements	Aspire	MAP	PARCC	Smarter Balanced	STAR	SAT
Aligned to CCSS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Available in reading, writing, and mathematics	Yes	No, reading and math only	Yes	Yes	No, reading and math only	Yes
Available at 3-8 and high school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, available at the high school level only
On-line administration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, paper and pencil
Comparable across multiple states	Yes	Yes	TBD – pending field test (2014) data	TBD – pending pilot (2013) and field test (2014) data	Yes	Yes
Operational in 201415 academic year	Yes	Yes	TBD - timeline states Winter-Spring 2015	TBD – timeline states Spring 2015; pilot was administered on time in Spring 2013	Yes	Yes

## Features and Criteria for Assessment System Evaluation

Features	Criteria
Quality assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authentic assessment of instruction</li> <li>• Efficient assessment/Leverages technology</li> <li>• Technical validity</li> <li>• Data/reporting valuable for multiple audiences and purposes</li> </ul>
Available accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodations and accessibility features for all students with disabilities</li> <li>• Accommodations and accessibility features for English Language Learners</li> </ul>
Suite of available resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment system includes more than just summative measures</li> <li>• Professional development available for teachers</li> </ul>
Aligned with college and career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment tied to college-and-career readiness</li> </ul>
Contribution of Oregon to the development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for Oregon educators to be involved in development</li> </ul>

## State Board Adoption

- The State Board of Education formally adopted the Smarter Balanced assessments in Math and ELA in May 2013.
- Adoption was based on recommendations submitted by a workgroup of stakeholders convened by ODE staff to review available assessment options and determine which would best serve Oregon students and districts.

## Smarter Balanced Assessment System Overview

- Smarter Balanced is a multi-state consortium of 23 states working to develop “next generation” assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards. USDOE provided \$180 million for development.
- Smarter Balanced will provide common cut scores across all consortium states and information about grade-level achievement and growth.
- Smarter Balanced will develop summative assessments providing a clearer picture of student knowledge and skills while encouraging more robust instruction. The Smarter Balanced summative assessments will include:
  - Performance tasks
  - Short answer item types (brief constructed response)
  - Traditional multiple choice item types
- Authentic tasks provide a clearer picture of student knowledge and skills while encouraging more robust instruction.
- Costs will be higher than the current system. (Oregon currently has one of the lowest assessment costs in the nation).

# Assessment System: Budget Request

## Student Assessments: Adopted 2013 Legislation

### ➤ SB 5518

- Included **\$16 million** ODE' s 2013-15 Legislatively Adopted Budget (LAB) for the statewide student assessment system (\$11m federal, plus \$5m General Fund).
- This amount did not entirely cover the anticipated costs of the new Smarter Balanced student assessment system that the State plans to use to measure student progress against the Common Core State Standards adopted by the Oregon State Board of Education.

### ➤ HB 5008

- Special purpose appropriation of **\$4.6 million** for ODE to cover costs over and above the amount included in ODE' s budget bill for the statewide student assessment system.
- Directed ODE to report on what assessments it plans to implement and on the most current estimates of the costs for each component of the assessments when making the request for this special purpose appropriation.

➤ **Action Now Requested: Allocation of \$4.4 million GF from HB 5008**

## Agency Action

- Participation in Smarter Balanced Field Test in spring 2014
- Refinement of cost estimates for Oregon's 2014-15 statewide student assessment system, including the Smarter Balanced student assessments aligned to the CCSS
- Negotiation of contract with an assessment vendor to deliver Oregon's 2014-15 statewide assessment system (including Smarter Balanced)

## Review of Assessment Budget: Revenues and Expenditures 2013 Session Estimates (in millions)

	2013-14 Current System	2014-15 New System	2013-15 Total
Total estimated assessment costs	\$7.2m	\$12-13.7m	\$19.2-20.9m
Revenue Sources:			
Federal Funds	\$5.5m	\$5.5m	\$11.0m
General Fund	\$2.5m	\$2.5m	\$5.0m
Total estimated revenues	\$8.0m	\$8.0m	\$16.0m
Potential Excess/ (Deficit)	\$0.8m	(\$4-5.7m)	(\$3.2-4.9m)

## Review of Assessment Budget: Revenues and Expenditures Current Estimates (in millions)

	2013-14 Current System	2014-15 New System	2013-15 Total
Total estimated assessment costs (see detail on next slide)	\$7.0m	\$13.4m	\$20.4m
Revenue Sources:			
Federal Funds*	\$5.5m	\$5.5m	\$11.0m
General Fund*	\$2.5m	\$2.5m	\$5.0m
Total estimated revenues	\$8.0m	\$8.0m	\$16.0m
Potential Excess/ (Deficit)	\$1.0m	(\$5.4m)	(\$4.4m)

## Breakdown of Current Estimated Assessment Costs

Description of Costs	2013-14 Estimated Costs	2014-15 Estimated Costs	Total
2013-14 OAKS, ELPA, and Writing Summative Assessment Contract (AIR)	\$4.5m		\$4.5m
2013-14 Writing Summative Assessment Scoring	\$0.5m		\$0.5m
2013-14 Other ODE Costs (Staffing & related costs, \$1.6m; HelpDesk, \$0.2m; K assessment, \$0.2m)	\$2.0m		\$2.0m
2014-15 OAKS, ELPA, and Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment Contract		\$8.4m	\$8.4m
2014-15 Smarter Balanced Membership Fees - Summative (Smarter Balanced)		\$1.7m	\$1.7m
2014-15 Formative/Interim Pass-through to Districts		\$1.3m	\$1.3m
2014-15 Other ODE Costs (Staffing & related costs, \$1.6m; HelpDesk, \$0.2m; QA vendor, \$0.2m)		\$2.0m	\$2.0m
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.0m</b>	<b>\$13.4m</b>	<b>\$20.4m</b>

## 2013-15 and 2015-17 Costs

- 2013-15 costs for the assessment system include only one year's worth of costs for the new system (2014-15).
- In 2015-17, the new system will be in effect the entire biennium and will cost about \$26.2 million (compared to \$20.4 million in 2013-15).

## Agency Ongoing and Next Steps

- Continue contract negotiations with our anticipated assessment vendor to find additional cost efficiencies
- Consult with other states and education organizations to ensure the costs we are incurring are comparable
- Consider entering into a cooperative agreement with other state(s) to benefit from economies of scale