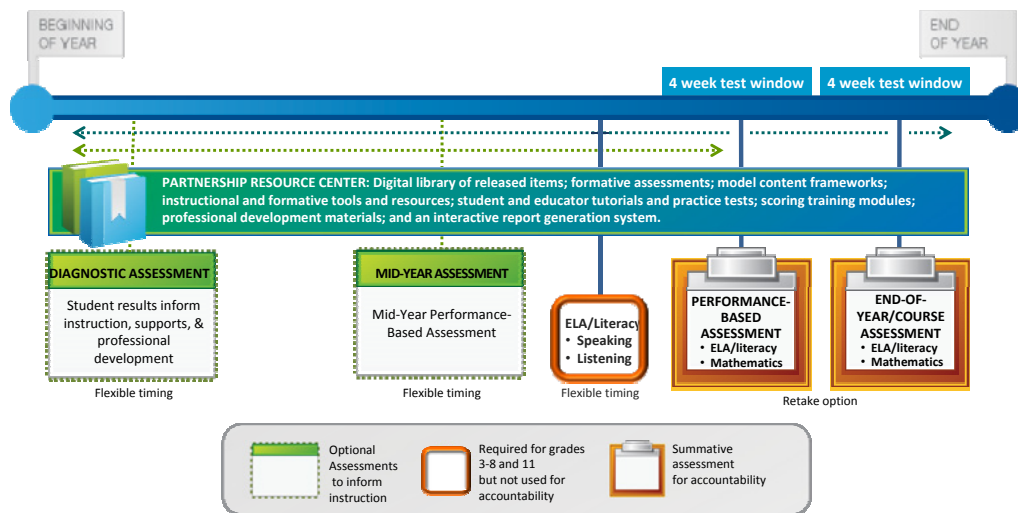


The Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)



Description of Major PARCC Features

Partnership Resource Center: This digital library will launch in Fall 2014 and contain resources to support teachers and students in grades K–12, including formative embedded tasks for students in grades K–1, released items and tasks, and online reporting system, and Professional Learning Modules. Many of these resources will be contributed by member states.

Optional Assessment Components:

Diagnostic Assessment: Available for grades 2–8 in Fall 2015, these computer-adaptive assessments will provide timely, detailed information concerning student strengths and weaknesses in foundational concepts and skills to support targeted instruction and professional development.

Mid-Year Performance Assessment: These extended formative tasks for grades 3–11 will provide teachers and students with instructionally useful feedback and prepare them for the summative performance tasks. A wide testing window will allow for alignment with local curricula. Tasks will focus on hard-to-measure standards and application of skills.

Summative Assessment: PARCC will provide summative assessments for grades 3–11 that have a Performance-Based Assessment and an End-of-Year Assessment, each of which has a testing window of 20 school days. Total testing time for ELA/literacy and mathematics, across 9 testing sessions, is expected to range from 8 hours at grade 3 to 9.75 hours in high school.

Performance-Based Assessment: Students will complete 3 ELA/literacy tasks (1 literary analysis task, 1 narrative task, 1 research simulation task) and two or more math tasks that involve complex, real-world problems.

End-of-Year Assessment: This assessment will be computer-based and consist of innovative, machine-scorable item types.

High School: In mathematics, both traditional and integrated math sequences will be supported; in ELA, literacy skills in ELA, science and social studies will be assessed, as specified in the Common Core.

Speaking and Listening Assessment: (*Required, not used for accountability*) Available for grades K–12 and required for grades 3–8 and high school, these will be locally scored.

Accountability: Scores for the Performance-Based Assessment and End-of-Year Assessment will be combined for the student’s annual accountability score. Subject to state decisions, PARCC will make available one retake for students in grades 3–8 and up to three retakes for high school students.

Implementation: Field testing in 2013–2014; Summative and Mid-Year assessments operational in 2014–15. Diagnostic, Speaking & Listening, and K-1 formative assessments ready in 2015–16.

Cost: 2013 projection: \$29.50 per student per year for all computer-based summative assessments, delivered and scored, in ELA/literacy and mathematics; paper-and-pencil versions an additional \$3–\$4 per student. Price of optional components will be announced in Summer 2014.