ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR MANUAL 2019-2020

ELA, MATH, and SCIENCE

Publication Date: 08/01/2019

Version IE

All screenshots, data dictionaries, and templates shown or referred to in this manual are accurate on the Publication Date noted above.

When this manual is updated, the Revision Date will also be updated. A summary of changes is included in the Appendix under Document History.
FINDING HELP
When the information in this manual and resources from your state Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) webpage do not lead to solutions, these contacts can provide additional support.

HINT: Print this page and keep it handy!

For these topics:  
- Kite® Student Portal installation  
- General computer support  
- Internet availability  
- Display resolution  
- Issues with sound, headphones, speakers, etc.  
- How to use Student Portal and Educator Portal  
- Training requirements  
- Assessment questions  
- Assessment scheduling  
- Test invalidation requirements  
- Student Individualized Education Program (IEP) requirements  
- Test window dates, extensions, requirements, etc.  
- Testlet resets (may take up to 72 hours)  
- Data issues (rosters, enrollment, etc.)

Contact:  
- Local technology representative  
- State education agency  
- The DLM Service Desk*
  1-866-204-7395 (toll-free) or DLM-support@ku.edu

*When contacting the DLM Service Desk:
- Do not send any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) for a student via email. This is a federal violation of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). PII includes information such as a student’s name or state identification number. Each state has unique PII requirements. Please check with your assessment coordinator to find out what student information can be legally emailed in your state.
- Do send:
  - your contact information (email address and name)
  - your school name (include the district if contacting state-level personnel)
  - error messages, including the testlet number if applicable to the problem
  - the Service Desk ticket number when following up on a previously submitted issue
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AUDIENCE AND PURPOSE

The ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR MANUAL for the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment provides assessment coordinators with information to support data managers, technology personnel, and test administrators (e.g., educators, examiners, proctors, or teachers) in preparing for the assessment. Assessment coordinators oversee the assessment process and serve as the main point of contact between the state department, DLM Service Desk, and district.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

To learn about updates to assessment coordinator resources such as this manual, subscribe to Test Updates on the DLM website under Assessment Resources > Test Updates (http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates).

WHAT’S NEW IN THIS VERSION

Information about these topics has been added or enhanced in this version.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Starting Page</th>
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<tr>
<td>Update to Checklist: Fall Window and Spring Window</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Update to section Assessment System Design and Delivery</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Update to section Monitor and Support Assessment Preparations and Administration</td>
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<td>38</td>
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To learn about updates to test administration resources such as this manual, subscribe to Test Updates on the DLM website (https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates).
INTRODUCTION

This manual provides information and a checklist to assist the assessment coordinator in supporting district staff and educators participating in Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) assessment. This manual includes policies, (e.g., test security and procedures) and outlines the roles and responsibilities the DLM Alternate Assessment Consortium has defined for participants.

The DLM Consortium has defined four participant roles in test delivery. These titles are used throughout the assessment administration manuals and training resources:

- test administrator
- assessment coordinator
- data manager
- technology personnel

One person may fill multiple roles.

Information about the roles of data manager and technology personnel is included in this manual only as it supports assessment coordinators in their activities. Resources specifically written for data managers and technology personnel are available on each state’s page on the DLM website. The roles and responsibilities of the people administering testlets are addressed in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL.

How a state defines the tasks and titles may vary. First, assessment coordinators should check the state page on the DLM website to see if the state has provided additional information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Task Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Coordinator</td>
<td>The assessment coordinator is presumed to work at the district level and is the main point of contact between the state department, the service desk, and the district. The key duties of the assessment coordinator are overseeing the assessment process, including managing staff and educator roles and responsibilities, developing and implementing a comprehensive training plan, developing a schedule for assessment implementation, monitoring and supporting assessment preparations and administration, and developing a plan to facilitate communication with parents/guardians and staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Task Summary</td>
</tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Manager</td>
<td>The data manager is presumed to work at the district or building level, but may be at a higher level. The key duty of the data manager is to maintain educator, student, and roster data. The assessment coordinator and data manager work together throughout the year. These roles may be interchangeable in some states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Personnel</td>
<td>The technology personnel is presumed to work at the district or building level, but may have a position at a higher level. The technology personnel does not always have access in Educator Portal. The key duty of the technology personnel is to prepare the network and assessment devices for assessment administration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Administrator</td>
<td>The test administrator is an educator who is responsible for working with Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams to select and enter the accessibility supports for each student into the Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Educator Portal. The test administrator is also responsible for completing the First Contact survey for each student, completing Required Test Administrator Training, reviewing and verifying student data, instructing students on the Essential Elements, preparing students for assessment, and administering the DLM alternate assessment to students.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHECKLISTS FOR ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS

The following checklists detail the critical steps for assessment coordinators to follow. Refer to them when reading this manual and preparing the school or district for the DLM alternate assessment. Follow the links provided for more information to quickly navigate to topics in this guide or to access other resources.

The checklists are organized into four sets of tasks for different parts of the school year. Information about each task is developed in more detail later in this manual.

1. Before Beginning Assessments
2. Fall Window
3. Spring Window
4. Prepare for Next Year

1. Before Beginning Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Use the resources on the state’s DLM webpage to become familiar with the DLM Alternate Assessment System, your roles and responsibilities, the roles and responsibilities of other participants from the state and district, and the procedures and materials needed to prepare for the assessment, including the DLM support resources.</td>
<td>The DLM website, States &gt; state page &gt; Resources for Educators and District Staff &gt; Educator Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Activate your Educator Portal account by following the instructions in the Kite® activation email. See the section about User Roles in the DATA MANAGEMENT MANUAL to understand the permissions for each role in Educator Portal. (If you already have an active Educator Portal account, skip this step.)</td>
<td>See the section Activate Educator Portal Account in the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE; Educator Portal: <a href="https://educator.kiteaa.org">https://educator.kiteaa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Work with the State Assessment Administrator to activate accounts equal to or above the district test coordinator level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Checklist for Assessment Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete the annual security agreement in your Educator Portal profile.</td>
<td>See the section Complete Security Agreement in the Educator Portal User Guide; Educator Portal: <a href="https://educator.kiteaaio">https://educator.kiteaaio</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasks</td>
<td>Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Manage district and school staff roles and responsibilities.</td>
<td>Checklists for data managers, technology personnel, and test administrators from role-specific manuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Identify staff to fill the roles of technology personnel and data manager as needed. Designate backup personnel for each role.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Identify educators who will serve as test administrators for the DLM alternate assessment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Make sure each person is aware of their roles and responsibilities and the timeline of events, including firm deadlines for required steps.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Make sure the technology personnel, the data manager, and test administrators understand the DLM assessment policies and procedures, as well as state-specific policies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Develop and implement a comprehensive training plan or implement your state’s training plan for district staff and test administrators.</td>
<td>Checklists for data managers, technology personnel, and test administrators from role-specific manuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Review the checklists for data managers, technology personnel, and test administrators.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Encourage data managers and technology personnel to complete the DLM-sponsored or state-sponsored training on their roles.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Deliver Required Test Administrator Training (if assigned by the state or district).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Monitor educator completion of all parts of Required Test Administrator Training and the security agreement by using the Training Status extract and the Security Agreement extract in Educator Portal.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Identify additional training or resource needs specific to local DLM participants and develop resources to address needs.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Encourage and monitor participation in the DLM professional development for instruction.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Checklist for Assessment Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9. Prepare for assessment implementation.</td>
<td>The DLM website, States &gt; Test Updates: <a href="http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates">http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Gather technology personnel and data manager contact information and initiate communication among district staff. Encourage all staff involved in assessment in any capacity to sign up for Test Updates on the DLM website.</td>
<td>Educator Portal: <a href="https://educator.kiteagenda.org">https://educator.kiteagenda.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Serve as the point of contact to the DLM Service Desk.</td>
<td><strong>EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Determine how you will receive communications from the state or district representatives for information that is specific to the state or district.</td>
<td>See the section Prepare for Assessment Implementation, page 27 of this manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Monitor creation of Educator Portal user accounts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Follow up, as needed, to ensure deadlines are met for test administrators to activate accounts and complete training.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Establish an assessment security plan and monitor adherence to the DLM- and state-specific test-security policies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Troubleshoot issues as they arise.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CHECKLISTS FOR ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10. Monitor and support assessment preparations and administration.</td>
<td>Educator Portal: <a href="https://educator.kiteaa.i.org">https://educator.kiteaa.i.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Remind technology personnel, data managers, and test administrators about important deadlines.</td>
<td>EDUCACTOR PORTAL USER GUIDE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Make sure educators have identified students who will participate in the DLM alternate assessment. Advise educators about the state’s policy for students who are hospitalized or home-bound as needed.</td>
<td>Participation Guidelines on the DLM website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Support test administrators and data managers in conducting data verification and revision within the two windows: the fall and spring windows.</td>
<td>Your state page on the DLM website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Ensure that every student who is supposed to participate is listed in Educator Portal and assigned to the correct test administrator.</td>
<td>See the section Monitor and Support Test Preparations and Administration, page 27 of this manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Monitor completion of the PNP Profile using the PNP Settings extract. The PNP Profile is where test administrators enter settings for each student’s personal needs and preferences. Follow up with test administrators as needed.</td>
<td>Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets on the DLM website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Monitor the completion of the First Contact survey for all students who will be assessed, using the First Contact survey file. Follow up with test administrators as needed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Assist test administrators with technology preparations (e.g., making sure assistive devices work) and assessment environment set-up (e.g., computer lab scheduling) as needed. Use the practice and released testlets to ensure computers are configured correctly.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Support test administrators in preparing the assessment environment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Ensure student’s usernames and passwords are printed. If the responsibility for printing student usernames and passwords for Kite Student Portal will be centralized in the school/district, assign responsibility for that task (the DLM Consortium assumes test administrators are responsible). User names and passwords are secure and should be securely destroyed after testing is completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasks</td>
<td>Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Develop a plan to facilitate communication with parents/guardians and district staff or follow your state-developed communication plan. Schedule meetings as necessary.</td>
<td>The DLM Webpage &gt; About Us &gt; Information for Parents:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/about/tests#parents">https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/about/tests#parents</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Consider what parents/guardians and district staff will need and want to know about the DLM assessments.</td>
<td>See the section Develop a Communication Plan, page 33 of this manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Determine the frequency of communication to various audiences.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Deliver communication to various audiences according to the timeline in the communication plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Relay new information from the DLM Alternate Assessment Consortium, the state, and the district to appropriate audiences as needed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CHECKLISTS FOR ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS

#### 2. Fall Window

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Monitor and support test administration.</td>
<td>TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL and EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Facilitate communication between the DLM staff and district staff during the assessment window(s).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Learn how to use the Instruction and Assessment Planner by viewing the helplet video or following the step-by-step guidance in the Educator Portal User Guide.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Monitor assessment activity for an individual student in the Instruction and Assessment Planner by using the fall Essential Elements Status Report. Monitor assessment activity for all students in a district or building prior to the end of the assessment window by using the Instructionally Embedded Monitoring extract during the assessment window.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Serve as the first point of contact for test administrators, answering questions about the assessment. Troubleshoot issues as they arise.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Serve as the point of contact for the DLM Service Desk.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CHECKLISTS FOR ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS

### 3. Spring Window

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The spring window is identical to the fall window. Follow the steps list under step 2.</td>
<td><strong>TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL and EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Monitor and support test administration.</td>
<td>See the section Form Delivery, page 32 of this manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Facilitate communication between the DLM staff and district staff during the assessment window.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Monitor assessment activity for an individual student in the Instruction and Assessment Planner by using the spring Essential Elements Status Report. Monitor assessment activity for all students in a district or building prior to the end of the assessment window by using the Instructionally Embedded Monitoring extract during the assessment window.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Serve as the first point of contact for test administrators, answering questions about the assessment. Troubleshoot issues as they arise.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Prepare for Next Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Prepare assessment coordinator plans for next year (develop calendar, design communication plan, schedule required training, etc.).</td>
<td><strong>TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL and EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE</strong>, Blueprints on the state page on the DLM website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Support test administrators in preparing for the next year by evaluating the PNP Profiles for students and reviewing blueprints for the next grade, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Contact the State Assessment Administrator for the coming year’s test windows.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABOUT THE DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Alternate Assessment System assesses what students with the most significant cognitive disabilities know and can do in DLM subject areas in grades 3-8 and high school. The department of education in each state determines which subjects and which grades are assessed. The DLM Alternate Assessment System provides accessibility by design and is guided by the core beliefs that all students are to have access to challenging grade-level content and that test administrators must adhere to the highest levels of integrity in providing instruction and in administering assessments based on this challenging content.

STUDENTS

As defined by the U.S. Department of Education, students with the most significant cognitive disabilities have a disability or multiple disabilities that especially affect intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviors. When adaptive behaviors are significantly affected, the individual is unlikely to develop the skills needed to live independently and to function safely in daily life. The DLM alternate assessment is designed for students for whom general education assessments, even with accommodations, are not appropriate.

Students taking the DLM alternate assessment require extensive, direct instruction, and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains. These students learn academic content aligned to grade-level content standards, but at reduced depth, breadth, and level of complexity.

Seek guidance from the state assessment administrator about the state’s participation guidelines for eligibility requirements.

THE DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS FOUNDATION FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS

The DLM maps are highly connected representations of how academic skills are acquired, as reflected in research literature. Nodes in the maps represent discrete knowledge, skills, and understandings in either English language arts (ELA) or mathematics, as well as important foundational skills that provide a foundation for academic skills. The maps go beyond traditional learning progressions by including multiple and alternate pathways through which students may develop content knowledge. As of June 2018, the ELA map has more than 2,000 nodes. The mathematics map has more than 2,300 nodes and more than 150 foundational nodes are associated with both subject maps. Between the nodes in the three combined maps are more than 10,000 connections.
The DLM science assessment map is currently under development. Therefore, science does not presently use a learning map model.

**ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**

The DLM content standards are called Essential Elements and are the learning targets for the assessment for grades 3 through 8 and high school in DLM ELA, mathematics, and science. The purpose of the Essential Elements is to build a bridge from the grade-level content standards for each state to the academic expectations for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

**BLUEPRINTS**

The DLM Consortium state education leaders selected a subset of Essential Elements for use at each grade level in each subject area. These subsets are called the testing blueprints. The testing blueprints contain Essential Elements from specific ELA conceptual areas and mathematics claims. During the fall and spring windows, test administrators are guided by these assessment requirements in making their Essential Element selections. Using the requirements, test administrators address the full breadth of blueprint coverage for each student in each assessment window.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**

The ELA and mathematics Essential Elements are specific statements of knowledge and skills linked to each state’s grade-level expectations. The Essential Elements specify academic targets, and the DLM map clarifies how students can reach those targets. For each Essential Element, small collections of nodes are identified earlier in the map, representing critical stages on the path toward the standard. These small collections of nodes are called linkage levels. The fourth level is the Target in ELA and mathematics, and most closely aligns with the grade-level standards but at a reduced depth, breadth, and level of complexity. The Initial Precursor, Distal Precursor, and Proximal Precursor levels are below the Target, and one level, the Successor linkage level, is beyond. See Linkage Level in the Glossary on page 38 for more detail.

**SCIENCE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**

The science Essential Elements are the learning targets for the DLM assessment in grade bands: elementary, middle school, and high school. Science Essential Elements are specific statements of knowledge and skills, including science and engineering practices, linked to grade-level expectations identified in the National Research Council’s Framework for K-12 Science Education. In science, each Essential Element has three linkage levels. The highest linkage level is the Target, and two levels, Initial and Precursor, exist below and provide access to the Target. Science does not have a linkage level beyond the Target linkage level at this time.
ASSESSMENT SYSTEM DESIGN AND DELIVERY

ELA AND MATHEMATICS

The DLM alternate assessment in English language arts and mathematics are delivered using instructionally embedded testlets during two required instructionally embedded assessment windows, the fall and spring windows.

During these two windows, test administrators have full control to

- choose the Essential Elements from the blueprints for testing
- choose the linkage level (level of complexity) for each Essential Element for each student
- decide the appropriate time to assign the testlet
- make adjustments as needed in each window

The blueprints that list the Essential Elements available for assessment for each subject are available on each state’s webpage. The blueprints are also located in the Instruction and Assessment Planner. Test administrators decide at the district level about which Essential Elements the student will be taught in conjunction with the student’s IEP team. Some states provide additional directions beyond the general expectation.

Assessments are given in testlets. Each testlet bundles together an engagement activity at the beginning of the testlet followed by three to nine items. Testlets should be embedded within instruction throughout the year. In this way, assessment informs teaching and benefits students.

Items in each testlet align to knowledge and skills at a single linkage level within an Essential Element. An engagement activity for an ELA testlet consists of a reading or writing task and presents context that is carried throughout the testlet. Specific item types are described in the section Computer-Delivered Item Types in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL. Information on taking practice activities and released testlets using demo student accounts is also included in the section Access Practice Activities and Released Testlets in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL.

The following paragraphs present a high-level overview of the process used by test administrators during the fall and spring windows.

Test administrators use the Instruction and Assessment Planner to access and submit the First Contact survey and the PNP Profile. After the First Contact survey is completed and submitted for each student on the test administrators’ roster, the test administrator chooses the appropriate settings in the PNP Profile. They then use the Instruction and Assessment Planner to select the Essential Elements with the most appropriate linkage level in ELA and mathematics for each student. This graphic presents the process cycle of instruction, assessment, and evaluation.
Specific directions for using the Instruction and Assessment Planner are available in the section Using the Instruction and Assessment Planner in the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE. A helplet video is also available (https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/erp/videos).

The Kite system uses an algorithm to define the relationships among the nodes in the learning map model together with information from the First Contact survey to recommend a linkage level for the first testlet for each Essential Element. The test administrator can accept the linkage level or assign a different one.

The test administrator is then ready to provide instruction. Each Essential Element has a mini-map icon. Clicking on the icon easily takes the test administrator to the instructional resources for the Essential Element. The test administrator then provides instruction outside of Educator Portal. When the test administrator believes the student is ready for assessment, they log into the Instruction and Assessment Planner and assign the assessment, which becomes available in Student Portal.

The test administrator clicks the credentials icon, retrieves the student’s user name and password, and delivers the assessment to the student in Student Portal. However, if the test administrator believes the student is not ready to be assessed on the particular Essential Element, they can choose to not access, and select a different Essential Element and begin the process again.

Decisions about which Essential Element and linkage level to select may be decided one at a time instead of selecting all Essential Elements at the beginning of the year. This way, the selection of the Essential Elements and linkage levels can be more adaptive for
the student throughout each window. Although this is a district decision, the decision should be whatever is best for the student.

HINT: Best practice is to assess each Essential Element after instruction has taken place instead of bunch testing at the end of the window.

After the testlet is submitted and scored, the test administrator reviews the results for the assessment in the Instruction and Assessment Planner. Each linkage level for an Essential Element that is tested will be marked as being mastered or not mastered.

The test administrator may continue further instruction on the same Essential Element at a different linkage level or can choose another Essential Element for instruction. The process is a cycle that is repeated until the blueprint requirements are met, both during the fall and spring windows.

The scores from both the fall window and the spring window contribute to the students final Individual Student Score Reports. Below is a quick overview of the two windows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Window for ELA and Mathematics</th>
<th>Spring Window for ELA and Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Required.</td>
<td>• Required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• All test administration is in the Instruction and Assessment Planner.</td>
<td>• All test administration is in the Instruction and Assessment Planner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The blueprint requirements for each claim and conceptual area must be met.</td>
<td>• The blueprint requirements for each claim and conceptual area must be met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than the minimum number of Essential Elements can be selected for instruction and assessment.</td>
<td>• More than the minimum number of Essential Elements can be selected for instruction and assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The system recommends a linkage level; the educator can accept or select another.</td>
<td>• The same Essential Elements from the fall window may be selected in the spring window, which will enable the test administrator to see the change in the student over time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The test administrator determines the schedule.</td>
<td>• The system recommends a linkage level; the educator can accept or select another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Student performance contributes to the end-of-year Individual Student Score Reports.</td>
<td>• The test administrator determines the schedule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Student performance contributes to the end-of-year Individual Student Score Reports.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total time for the assessments varies depending on the number of Essential Elements a test administrator chooses and the number of times a student is assessed on an Essential Element at different linkage levels. Testlets may be taken separately across multiple assessment sessions as long as the blueprint requirements are met in each window. The amount of time for each individual testlet varies depending on the subject and the student.

### Fall Window for Science
- Optional for science.
- Is administered in the Instruction and Assessment Planner part of Educator Portal.
- The test administrator selects the Essential Elements.
- The system recommends a linkage level; the educator can accept or select another.
- The test administrator determines the schedule.
- Student performance does not contribute to the end-of-year Individual Student Score Reports.

### Spring Window for Science
- Required for science.
- Is administered in Test Management part of Educator Portal.
- The blueprint requirements for each domain are tested.
- The system assigns the Essential Elements and the linkage level.
- The test administrator determines the schedule.
- Student performance contributes to the end-of-year Individual Student Score Reports.

### Fall and Spring Windows
**Duration in Minutes for Each Testlet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Minutes for Each Testlet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English language arts</td>
<td>10–15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>5–10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Field Test Testlets are delivered in both windows after the blueprint requirements have been met. The student may receive one or zero field tests in each subject. The linkage level of the field test testlet will be one level above or one level below the linkage level of the operational testlet that was taken for that Essential Element.

**NOTE:** Check your state’s DLM webpage to see if your state tests DLM science.

### SCIENCE

Assessment of science has some similarities to ELA and mathematics, but it also has differences. Science is also delivered in the fall and the spring windows. However, the two windows are different from one another.

During the fall window, science testlets are available, but optional. Other than being optional, the assessment of science is very similar to ELA and mathematics during the
fall window. The test administrator chooses the science Essential Elements, decides the linkage level for each Essential Element, provides instruction, and then administers the assessments, following the same procedures as ELA and mathematics. Each science testlet bundles together an engagement activity at the beginning of the testlet followed by three to five items. After the assessment, the linkage level of each Essential Element is marked as mastered or not mastered. These results are also available in the fall Essential Element Status Report. Unlike ELA and mathematics, the results of the science testlets during the fall window do not contribute to the student’s end-of-year Individual Student Score Report. The results from science assessments in the fall window are not predictive of results during the spring window.

Assessing science during the spring window is different from assessing science in the fall window. During the spring window, science is required. Although test administrators can still choose when to schedule each science testlet, the system selects the science Essential Elements and assigns the linkage level for each testlet. The test administrator chooses neither.

The linkage level of the first science testlet is based on the First Contact survey. Subsequent science testlets are delivered adaptively based on the student’s performance. Nine or ten total testlets are delivered in science, depending on whether the state tests end-of-instruction biology.

During the spring window, science is tested in the Test Management part of Educator Portal, not the Instruction and Assessment Planner. End-of-year Individual Student Score Reports for science are from only the required spring window. During the spring window, the science results are not visible in the Essential Element Status Report.

Field testing for science during the fall window can occur for any Essential Element. During the spring window, the student may receive zero or one field test testlet after the required nine or ten testlets are taken. The linkage level of the science field test testlet may be one linkage level lower than or higher than the operational testlet.

Specific item types are described in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL. Information on taking practice activities and released testlets using demo student accounts is also included in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL.

ABOUT THE KITE® SYSTEM AND EDUCATOR PORTAL

The Kite system was designed to deliver the next generation of large-scale assessments and was tailored to meet the needs of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Educators and students use two of the four applications in the Kite system. Students and educators each see a different part.
Students have accounts in **Kite Student Portal**.

Students are delivered testlets through Student Portal, which is a customized secure interface. Once launched, Student Portal prevents students from accessing websites or other applications during testing. Practice activities and released testlets are also available using demo student accounts through Student Portal. *Educators and staff do not have accounts in Student Portal.*

Staff and educators have accounts in **Kite Educator Portal**.

Educator Portal is the administrative application through which staff and educators manage student data and retrieve reports. Users can access Educator Portal online via [https://educator.kiteaa.org](https://educator.kiteaa.org). For information on how to work within Educator Portal, see the **EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE** on the DLM website.

**HOW TO USE THE DLM WEBSITE**

Additional resources for test administrators, assessment coordinators, data managers, and technology personnel are available on the DLM website. Resources are provided by the DLM Consortium, and state-specific resources may also be available.

To access resources for each state and role, follow these steps:

2. Hover over the **STATES** tab to reveal a list of states.
   Select your state.

**HINT:** Bookmark the page or save it to your favorites for quick access later.
**RESOURCES ON THE DLM WEBSITE**

The following table lists DLM resources that are designed for assessment coordinators. These resources are available on most state webpages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR MANUAL (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports the assessment coordinator in preparing district and school staff for assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DATA MANAGEMENT MANUAL (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports the data manager in gathering, editing, and uploading user (educator/staff) data, enrollment (student) data, and roster (groups of students by test administrator) data via Educator Portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TECHNOLOGY SPECIFICATIONS MANUAL (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports the technology personnel in preparing schools for the technology needs of the DLM alternate assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports test administrators in preparing themselves and students for assessment. Expands the knowledge base for the assessment coordinator on specific topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Provides guidance to state leaders, districts, educators, and Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams on the selection and use of accessibility supports available for use when testing in Student Portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports educators in navigating Educator Portal to access assessment information, including student data and reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educator Resource Page (webpage)</strong></td>
<td>Provides supplemental instruction and assessment resources for educators and test administrators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Helps test administrators access the DLM Required Test Administrator Training on the DLM Moodle training website. Moodle is the website where the Required Test Administrator training modules are located. It is also where test administrators take their post-tests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guide to Practice Activities &amp; Released Testlets (PDF)</strong></td>
<td>Supports the test administrator in accessing practice activities in Student Portal using demo student accounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Updates Page (webpage)</strong></td>
<td>Provides breaking news on test administration activities. Sign up to receive alerts when new resources become available: <a href="http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates">http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/test-updates</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREPARE FOR THE DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION

OVERVIEW
The key duties of the assessment coordinator are:

- oversee the assessment process, including managing staff and educator roles and responsibilities
- use the extracts and reports to monitor testing progress
- develop and implement a comprehensive training plan
- develop a schedule for assessment implementation
- monitor and support assessment preparations and administration
- develop a communication plan with parents/guardians and staff

NOTE: In some cases, responsibilities will be determined by plans and communications decided at the state level.

The Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Consortium suggests preparing for DLM test administration through careful planning, implementation, and monitoring.

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PLAN

HINT: The manuals for test administrators, data managers, and technology personnel direct users to contact their district assessment coordinator for a training plan tailored specifically to their state and district.

The DLM Consortium suggests developing a training plan to support testing efforts by test administrators, data managers, and technology personnel. Consider the resources in this section when developing a plan.

TRAINING WEBINARS AND HELPLET VIDEOS FOR ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS, DATA MANAGERS, AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL

- Prerecorded training webinars for assessment coordinators are available on each state’s DLM website. This webinar is also appropriate for data managers and technology personnel. Training includes PowerPoint slides, transcripts, and a Frequently Asked Questions document.
- Many 1-5 minute helplet videos are available on how to do specific tasks in Educator Portal, such as How to Get Started in Educator Portal and the Personal Learning Profile.
Training to help test administrators complete the PNP Profile and the First Contact survey.

- Users can subscribe to Test Updates ([dlmft3-l-join@lists.ku.edu](mailto:dlmft3-l-join@lists.ku.edu)) that announce releases in new training and other important information.

HINT: All resources listed above are located on the DLM website ([https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/](https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/)); none are in Educator Portal.

See How to Use the DLM Website on page 23 to find resources by role.

**RESOURCES FOR TEST ADMINISTRATORS**

The DLM Consortium provides required training for test administrators, professional development for instructional support, and supplemental training. The following table compares these three categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Test Administrator Training</th>
<th>Professional Development for Instruction</th>
<th>Supplemental Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Critical content for managing and delivering the DLM alternate assessment is covered.</td>
<td>- The modules address topics to support academic instruction for students who take the DLM alternate assessment.</td>
<td>- The training includes a variety of topics to supplement use of the DLM materials and system navigation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Test administrators will not be able to deliver testlets until training is complete.</td>
<td>- Modules are created for students at the Target linkage level, and teachers will need to adjust the module information to use for students at the lower linkage levels.</td>
<td>- Supplemental training is strongly recommended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- States decide which format(s) to offer for new test administrator training; self-directed or facilitated. All returning test administrator training is self-directed.</td>
<td>- The modules are strongly recommended.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Successful completion is a score of 80% or higher on the post-test.</td>
<td>- States and districts may recommend or require specific modules.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- States decide which format(s) to offer: self-directed or facilitated.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Required Test Administrator Training

Training is required for all test administrators who will administer the DLM alternate assessment. New test administrators must successfully complete four modules with a passing score of 80% or higher on each module’s post-test before administering the DLM alternate assessment. In states offering science, additional science content is included in the four modules. Total training time is estimated at about 2.5 hours.

State policy determines who takes the required training course, which course is offered, and the format for the course. In some states, in addition to test administrators, other educators, such as the district and building assessment coordinators, must take the required training. The first year a state administers the DLM alternate assessment, all test administrators must take the Required Test Administrator Training for new teachers. During subsequent years, the state decides whether to require returning test administrators to complete the new training course or the returning training course. In states offering the returning training course, a returning test administrator is identified based on Educator Portal records. If a participant is a returning test administrator from the previous year and is mistakenly placed in the course for new test administrators, contact the state education agency. If a test administrator administered the DLM alternate assessment in the past but not in the preceding year, that test administrator will be placed in the new test administrator training again.

HINT: See the GUIDE TO DLM REQUIRED TEST ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING located on the DLM website for complete information.

Professional Development for Instructional Support

Professional development for instruction is strongly encouraged. If wishing to incorporate professional development for instruction into a training plan, the DLM Consortium offers a variety of content and multiple methods to access the materials.

- The DLM Consortium has created online professional development learning modules. These modules provide information and strategies to help educators instruct students.
  - Each online, self-directed module lasts approximately 30–45 minutes and focuses on a single topic related to instruction of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.
  - Facilitated modules for groups cover the same content as self-directed modules and provide materials to support a facilitator in addressing a group of test administrators.

The DLM Instructional Supports Facebook page encourages collaboration among educators across the consortium. Most educators are required to participate in regular, ongoing professional development. Some states give continuing
education credits for the DLM professional development modules. Print the certificate emailed upon completion of any module to provide documentation to your assessment coordinator to receive possible continuing education credits. The professional development website is https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/professional-development. See the professional development website at http://dlmpd.com.

**PREPARE FOR ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

To prepare for assessment implementation, consider these tasks:

- Gather technology personnel and data manager contact information and initiate communication among district staff. Encourage staff to sign up for Test Updates on the DLM website.
- Establish communication between data managers, technology personnel, and the DLM Consortium.
- Determine how you will receive communications from the state or district representatives for information specific to the state or district.
- Follow up on the following as needed to ensure deadlines are met for test administrators to do the following:
  - Monitor user accounts: Use the User extract to monitor roles and whether an account is active, pending, or inactive in Educator Portal.
  - Complete the security agreement: Use the Security Agreement extract to monitor the date the security agreement was accepted and signed.
  - Complete training: Use the Training Status extract to monitor the date training was completed.
  - Submit the First Contact survey: Use the First Contact File to monitor whether each student has a completed First Contact Survey.
  - Monitor the Personal Needs and Preference (PNP) Profile settings: Use the PNP Settings extract to monitor each student and whether the setting are appropriate for the student. Note: not every student needs special settings in the PNP Profile.
- Establish an assessment security plan, and monitor adherence to the DLM and state-specific test-security policies. Consider these tasks when developing a plan:
  - Designate the assessment location(s); a quiet, private environment is best.
  - Adhere to state and district policies for assessment security.
- Troubleshoot issues as they arise.
**COMPLETE THE SECURITY AGREEMENT**

Test administrators have a unique opportunity to administer new items and assessments. These items are expected to be treated as secure assessments. Therefore, each user is provided a security agreement that covers five security policies.

Each year, those with access to Educator Portal must renew their DLM security agreement. The previous year’s agreement expires during the first week of August. For a step-by-step procedure, see the section Complete Security Agreement in the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE or view the Getting Started helplet video. The text of the security agreement is provided below.

![Security Agreement Section](image)

**NOTE:** If DLM staff discovers that a user account has been used by someone other than the account owner, the user account will be considered compromised and will be locked.

---

**Help test administrators avoid this common pitfall.**

If a user does NOT agree to the annual security agreement, the user will NOT have access to the Instruction and Assessment Planner or the Test Management tab in Educator Portal. Use the Security Agreement Completion extract to monitor compliance.
MONITOR AND SUPPORT ASSESSMENT PREPARATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

The DLM Consortium suggests monitoring and supporting assessment preparations and administration to promote success in schools and districts. Include these tasks:

- Remind technology personnel, data managers, and test administrators about important deadlines.
- Make sure test administrators have identified students who will participate in the DLM alternate assessment.
- Advise test administrators, as needed, about the state’s policy for students who are hospitalized or home-bound.
- Support test administrators and data managers in conducting data verification/revision within the fall and the spring windows. Ensure that every student who is supposed to participate is listed in Educator Portal and rostered to a test administrator. Exit students from Educator Portal who are not eligible for the DLM alternate assessment. Test administrators, along with Individualized Education Program teams, identify students who will participate in the DLM alternate assessment. Participation guidelines are available on the DLM website. Check with your state for any additional guidelines they provide.
- Monitor completion of the PNP Profile and First Contact survey for all students who will be assessed. Follow up with test administrators as needed.

**HINT:** Help test administrators who have students who are leaving or joining the classroom after the assessment window has opened. Work with the data manager (who has more information about best practices and procedures) so these students have accurate records and receive testlets at their current school. A student who has begun testing in one school and transfers to another can continue testing as soon as the student is enrolled and rostered in the new school, as long as the test administrator has passed required training and signed the security agreement.

**PERSONAL NEEDS AND PREFERENCES PROFILE**

The test administrator, using information and procedures from the ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL, completes the PNP Profile for each student. Selecting appropriate settings in the PNP Profile ensures the correct accessibility supports are available in Student Portal. Use the PNP Settings extract in Educator Portal to monitor supports being used across the district. Not every student needs supports in the PNP Profile.
**FIRST CONTACT SURVEY**

The test administrator completes the First Contact survey, which is a survey used to collect data and background information about students who are eligible for the DLM alternate assessments. The survey goes beyond basic demographic information and includes questions on communication, assistive technology devices, motor and sensory impairments, and academic performance. The purpose of the survey is to have data available for the system to make linkage level recommendations for each Essential Element. During the fall window, a test administrator will not have access to the Essential Elements until the First Contact survey is completed and submitted.

In the spring window, the recommended linkage level for any Essential Element not tested during the fall window is also based on the First Contact survey responses. However, for Essential Elements tested during the fall window, the student’s performance for those Essential Elements will determine the recommended linkage level on those same Essential Elements during the spring window.

Test administrators receive training in the Required Test Administrator Training on how to answer the First Contact survey questions. The assessment coordinator is to answer test administrator questions and help them make sure they have answered all items and successfully submitted the survey. The assessment coordinator can monitor the completion of the survey for each student using the First Contact Survey Extract.

In addition to the Required Test Administrator Training, a short helplet video on the DLM website (https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/erp/videos), Personal Learning Profile Training provides training on how to complete the student’s PNP Profile and First Contact survey in Educator Portal. Use the First Contact survey extract to monitor completion of the First Contact survey across the district.

**HINT:** The TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL includes checklists that define policies (e.g., security and procedures) for test administrators.

**RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BRAILLE TEST ADMINISTRATION**

Assessment coordinators monitor and support the administration of braille forms during the fall and spring windows. The DLM Alternate Assessment System makes available braille forms for some Essential Elements but only at upper linkage levels. These forms are available in uncontracted UEB or EBAE, depending on which the state has made available for the test administrator to select in the student’s PNP Profile. Braille forms also include Nemeth code for mathematics as needed during each assessment window.

Not all Essential Elements at every grade and every linkage level have braille equivalents. Where they are not provided, test administrators will need to use other
approaches to deliver assessments to students who are blind or have visual impairments. Braille is not to be selected for emerging braille readers because the DLM alternate assessment tests the student’s knowledge and understanding of the Essential Elements and not the student’s ability to use braille. For more information, see the section Testlets for Students who are blind or have visual impairments in the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL. Also read the ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL for approaches for working with students who are blind or visually impaired.

**Form Delivery**

By selecting the braille setting in the PNP Profile, the system will assign braille forms to the student when the forms are available. See the chart below for information about the potential availability of braille forms for each subject, grade, and linkage level for each assessment window.

All Braille Ready Files are delivered via Educator Portal and must be embossed locally. The DLM Consortium does not provide embossed braille forms. During the fall and spring window for ELA and mathematics, the braille forms are located in the Instruction and Assessment Planner, along with the Testlet Information Page (TIP). During the spring window for science, the braille forms and TIP are located in the Test Management section of Educator Portal. For the procedure to retrieve a Braille Ready File, see the section Retrieve Braille Ready File in the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grades/Linkage Levels</th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>Delivered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELA and mathematics</td>
<td>3–5 Target and Successor</td>
<td>Fall and Spring Windows</td>
<td>Instruction and Assessment Planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA and mathematics</td>
<td>6–8 and HS Proximal Precursor, Target and Successor</td>
<td>Fall and Spring Windows</td>
<td>Instruction and Assessment Planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3–8 and HS Target</td>
<td>Spring Assessment Window only</td>
<td>Test Management section of Educator Portal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scoring a Student’s Response**

When the system assigns a testlet, it delivers a computer-based version through Student Portal. This version is equivalent to the braille version the student receives. As the
student takes the testlet on the braille paper version, the student indicates each response choice to the test administrator as is normally done on other braille assignments. The test administrator inputs each student response into Student Portal. Responses are scored by the system the same way as with non-braille forms.

**DEVELOP A COMMUNICATION PLAN**

The DLM Consortium suggests developing a plan to facilitate communication with parents/guardians and district staff or following the state-developed communication plan. Schedule meetings as necessary.

The DLM Consortium provides a Parent Notification Letter, available in English and Spanish, as an editable Word document. These resources are available to download and edit to fit the needs of a state or district. The DLM Consortium also offers information and resources for parents/guardians on the DLM Webpage > About Us > Information for Parents [https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/about/tests#parents](https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/about/tests#parents).

**STUDENT REPORTS**

**Essential Element Status Reports**

The Essential Element Status Report is a printable PDF report accessed directly from the Instruction and Assessment Planner by clicking on its icon. The report includes the blueprint coverage status for ELA and mathematics in the fall and the spring window. Information about science is also available in the Essential Element Status Report during the fall window.

**Student Progress Reports**

The Student Progress Report is a printable PDF report accessed in Educator Portal by clicking on the Reports tab. This report summarizes the progress of a student in an individual subject area. The report includes results from ELA, mathematics, and science in the fall window, and ELA and mathematics in the spring window.

This report shows the Essential Element and the linkage level tested. The reports contain sensitive information, including the student’s name, school, grade, and state identification number, among other data, and the report must be treated as a secure document and handled accordingly.

**Class Roster Report**

The Class Roster Report is a printable PDF report accessed in Educator Portal by clicking on the Reports tab. This report displays the most recent assessment and current instructional goals for one or more students on a roster. The report includes results from ELA, mathematics, and science in the fall window, and ELA and mathematics in the spring window.
**MONITORING SUMMARY REPORT**

The Monitoring Summary Report is a printable PDF report accessed in Educator Portal by clicking on the Reports tab. This report provides aggregate files with data for a district or school, per grade, and per subject. The report includes results from ELA, mathematics, and science for both the fall and spring windows.

**INDIVIDUAL STUDENT SCORE REPORTS**

Depending on when your state spring window closes, the Individual Student Score Reports, commonly called ISRs, become available to the state assessment administrator in mid-summer. Your state will decide which roles will have access to the ISRs in Educator Portal. In most states, test administrators will get ISRs for the students they tested from their building or district assessment coordinator. All results from the fall and spring windows are summarized in the Individual Student Score Reports.

The scoring system for the DLM alternate assessment works differently than scoring for traditional alternate assessments. Students are not given raw scores, percentage correct scores, or scale scores. Instead, for ELA and mathematics, the system combines a student’s responses on operational testlets with information about the structure of the DLM map to determine which linkage levels the student has likely mastered during the fall and spring windows.

Summative results are based on the subset of Essential Elements on the blueprint that are selected and assessed for ELA and mathematics in the Instruction and Assessment Planner. Summative results for science are based on the spring assessment window only. The information about each linkage level leads to a summary of the student’s mastery of skills in each conceptual area for ELA, claim for mathematics, and domain for science and for the subject overall.

**DATA EXTRACTS**

In addition to the Current Enrollment extract, the Roster extract, and the User extract, district assessment coordinators have access to a number of data extracts that are useful for monitoring assessments.

**TRAINING STATUS EXTRACT**

The Training Status extract reports whether an educator with the role of teacher typically a test administrator, has completed Required Test Administrator Training. This extract also informs the assessment coordinator whether the test administrator is to take the Required Test Administrator Training for new test administrators or returning test administrators.
SECURITY AGREEMENT COMPLETION EXTRACT

The Security Agreement Completion extract has information about whether district users have accepted or rejected the security agreement, signed the current year’s security agreement, and on what date these actions occurred.

FIRST CONTACT SURVEY EXTRACT

An assessment coordinator can easily monitor completion of the First Contact survey across the district using this extract. The extract lists who completed the survey, the day and time when the survey was last accessed, and the status of the First Contact survey (e.g., Not Started, In Progress, Ready to Submit, and Completed). The test administrator will not have access to select an Essential Element for instruction and assessment until the First Contact survey is completed.

PNP SETTING EXTRACT

The PNP Settings extract can help an assessment coordinator monitor the selections made for students to ensure the most appropriate selections were made (e.g., ensuring braille is not selected for students who are not proficient enough in braille to take the DLM assessments. Also, ensuring the Alternate form – Visual Impairment form is selected for students who are blind or visually impaired). A test administrator is not to choose settings for which the student is unfamiliar or choose settings that do not work well together. Using this extract, the assessment coordinator can advise test administrators with their selections.

DLM INSTRUCTIONALLY EMBEDDED MONITORING EXTRACT

This extract will help with monitoring blueprint coverage for a school, a district, or the entire state. The extract provides extensive information about each student in a given grade, including percent of the required blueprint that has been met during each window. See the section Access Reports and Extract section of the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE has more information about accessing reports and extracts.
SUPPORTED BROWSERS
See the Kite® Requirements webpage (https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/requirements) to choose a browser that will work well with Educator Portal. For more information on browsers and technology in the district, contact the technology personnel.

KITE ASSESSMENT DEVICES
The Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment may be administered on:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device Type</th>
<th>Delivery Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows PC desktops</td>
<td>Via Student Portal with Windows and Mac instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac desktops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptops (PC or Mac)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPads</td>
<td>Via Student Portal app with iPad instructions (previous versions are not supported)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromebooks</td>
<td>Via Student Portal or Google app with Chromebook instructions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Local devices attached to these machines, such as interactive whiteboards, are also acceptable. Interactive whiteboards (brand names SMART, Promethean, etc.) may be used during assessment. The same hardware, software, and screen-resolution constraints apply. The projector associated with the interactive whiteboard must project the computer screen at a resolution no lower than 1,024 × 768 pixels. For more information on assessment devices, contact the technology personnel.

Students are permitted to use assistive technology. To ensure Student Portal supports the particular assistive device, use the assistive device with a released testlet in Student Portal. You may also contact the DLM Service Desk (DLM-support@ku.edu).

ENSURE INTERNET CONNECTIVITY
An internet connection is required to deliver assessments through the use of Student Portal. Test administrators may contact you or technology personnel to ask about opportunities available for assessment where an internet connection is not available (e.g., a homebound student). Contact the Service Desk for advice when an internet connection will not be available.

KITE PROCEDURES
See the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE for procedures that support test administrators.

- Access Practice Activities and Released Testlets
- Start a Test
- Navigate in Kite Student Portal
- Take a Break During Assessment
- Complete the Test
- Change an Accessibility Support During Assessment
- Troubleshoot in Kite Student Portal
GLOSSARY

This glossary compiles definitions and acronyms relevant to assessment for the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment.

**card**
A cell on the Student View Page for each Essential Element and linkage level. Information about the specific Essential Element and the specific linkage level can be accessed when the user selects the card.

**claim**
ELA and mathematics: A broad statement about what the DLM Consortium expects students to learn and to be able to demonstrate within English language arts and mathematics. Each claim is subdivided into two or more conceptual areas.

**conceptual area**
ELA and mathematics: A region within the DLM learning map containing nodes associated with related Essential Elements, representing concepts and skills that support the learning of the Essential Elements in English language arts and mathematics. Conceptual areas are composed of clusters of connected concepts and skills and serve as models of how students may acquire and organize their content knowledge. Conceptual areas are considered subparts of the overall claims.

**connection**
ELA and mathematics: The relationship between two nodes in the DLM maps. Connections are illustrated with arrows in the maps.

**core idea**
Science: Core ideas are the key organizing principles in science and are taught and learned over multiple grades at increasing levels of depth and sophistication.

For science, within each domain, three or four core ideas have been selected to use for instruction and assessment. Each of the core ideas is narrowed further into topics.

**display enhancements**
Options that change the testlet appearance on the student’s device screen, including magnification, overlay color, inverted color choice, and contrast color.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>domain</td>
<td>Science: The major science content areas assessed are domains. The domains assessed across all grade bands are physical science, life science, and Earth and space science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educator Portal</td>
<td>Educator Portal is the administrative application where staff and educators manage student data and retrieve reports. Users can access Educator Portal via <a href="https://educator.kiteai.org/">https://educator.kiteai.org/</a>. For information on working within Educator Portal, see the DATA MANAGEMENT MANUAL and the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE on the DLM website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>engagement activity</td>
<td>An activity at the beginning of a testlet that describes a scenario, taps prior knowledge or experience, and/or introduces the concept to be addressed. In English language arts reading testlets, the first reading of the text often serves as the engagement activity. In mathematics and science, the engagement activity provides context for the items. The engagement activity for some science testlets at the upper linkage levels include a short video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Elements</td>
<td>Essential Elements build a bridge from the content in the grade-level standards to academic expectations for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. They are specific statements of knowledge and skills linked to the grade-level expectations identified in K-12 grade-level standards for English language arts and mathematics. Essential Elements in science are linked to the National Research Council’s Framework for K-12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Contact survey</td>
<td>A survey used to collect background information about students who are eligible for the DLM alternate assessments. The survey goes beyond basic demographic information and includes questions on communication, assistive technology devices, motor and sensory impairments, and academic performance. Core questions from the First Contact survey are used to recommend the linkage level for each Essential Element during the fall window. Core questions are also used during the spring window for any Essential Elements that were not tested during the fall window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>initialization</strong></td>
<td>The process by which a student’s existing information is used to determine the point in the DLM learning map model where the student enters the assessment for the first time.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instruction and Assessment Planner</strong></td>
<td>A part in Educator Portal where test administrators perform assessment functions for a student during both the fall and spring windows. Functions include selecting an Essential Element and linkage level for instruction and subsequent testing. Most data about the student can be accessed from the Instruction and Assessment Planner, including mastery of an Essential Element at the tested linkage level and indications when the blueprint requirements are met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>instructionally embedded assessment</strong></td>
<td>Assessment that occurs throughout instruction in both the fall and spring windows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kite Student Portal</strong></td>
<td>A secure customized application used to deliver assessments to students. All students taking the DLM alternate assessment will have unique accounts in Kite Student Portal. Test administrators do not have accounts in Student Portal. In addition to operational testing in the Student Portal, practice activities and released testlets can be administered using Student Portal. The log in credentials for the practice activities and released testlets are unique to each one. See the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL for more information about Student Portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>linkage level</strong></td>
<td>ELA and mathematics: A small section of the DLM learning map model containing one or more nodes that represent critical concepts or skills needed to learn the Essential Element. ELA and mathematics each have five linkage levels: Initial Precursor, Distal Precursor, Proximal Precursor, Target, and Successor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>materials</strong></td>
<td>Materials generically refer to any objects, manipulatives, and tools used during an assessment. Materials lists are specific for each subject during each window. The lists are found on each state’s DLM website under Educator Resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
node

ELA and mathematics: A representation in the DLM learning maps of an individual skill or conceptual understanding identified in the research in ELA and mathematics.

Personal Learning Profile

This is a collective term used to describe a student’s personal needs and preferences settings entered in the PNP Profile in addition to information about the student entered in the First Contact survey in Educator Portal.

Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile

Student-specific information that informs Kite Student Portal about an individual student’s personal needs and preferences. The PNP Profile includes information the system needs to make the student’s user interface compatible with their accessibility needs. The PNP Profile includes information about display enhancements, language and braille, and audio and environmental supports. Educators who know the student provide the information in the profile found in Educator Portal.

plan

A plan is created in the Instruction and Assessment Planner in Educator Portal. A plan includes the educator-selected Essential Element and educator-selected linkage level and leads to the educator-assigned testlet for ELA, mathematics, and science during the fall window and ELA and mathematics during the spring window.

released testlets

A released testlet is a publicly available, sample DLM assessment. Released testlets may be used by students and teachers as examples or opportunities for practice. Released testlets are developed using the same standards and methods used to develop testlets that are used in DLM operational assessments. New released testlets are added periodically.

State Assessment Administrator (SAA)

This is an Educator Portal role assigned to staff at the state education agency who have the highest level of access and permissions in Kite Educator Portal. An SAA can transfer students between districts, assign the District Test Coordinator role, and have access to all student reports and extracts.
state education agency (SEA)

A state department of education.

stem

The stem is the beginning part of the item that presents a problem to solve or an item to respond to. The stem may also include other relevant information in the item. A multiple choice item is a common example in the DLM alternate assessment, consisting of a stem and a set of response options from which to choose.

Student Activity Table

The Student Activity Table provides an at-a-glance overview of each student’s progress in the subjects to which the student is rostered during the fall or the spring window. The table is part of the Instruction and Assessment Planner in Educator Portal used during required testing in both windows. The table populates the data based on the test administrator’s actions on the Student View Page.

The table also includes three icons providing easy access to the First Contact survey, PNP Profile, and the student’s credentials.

Student View Page

During the instructionally embedded assessment window, test administrators use the Student View Page for several instruction and assessment actions for each student. This page is in the Instruction and Assessment Planner in Educator Portal and displays details about one student at a time for each Essential Element and linkage level. The test administrator will perform several actions such as creating a plan and assigning a testlet. The system will automatically display information about the student’s testing progress such as mastery of an Essential Element at the linkage level tested.

technology-enhanced items

Computer-delivered test items that require a specialized interaction, such as click and drag. A technology-enhanced item is any item that is not answered using direct selection.
**testlet**

A short assessment that begins with an engagement activity and includes three to nine items, depending on the subject. Together the items increase the instructional relevance of the assessment and provide a better estimate of a student’s knowledge, skills, and understandings than can be achieved by a single assessment item. Each testlet assesses only one Essential Element except for the writing testlet, which assesses all writing Essential Elements together in one testlet. Testlets are either teacher-administered or computer-delivered. More specific information is found in the Test Administration Manual.
## STATE APPENDICES

### DOCUMENT HISTORY

NOTE: Page numbers are valid ONLY for the date and version noted. They may change in future versions.

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<th>Starting Page</th>
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<td>Update to Checklist: Fall Window and Spring Window</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Update to section Assessment System Design and Delivery</td>
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