

Kansas Alternate Assessment in Social Studies

Introduction

The Kansas Social Studies Alternate Assessment (KS HGSS-AA) is comprised of three grade-level assessments (grades 6, 8, and 11) designed to measure essential skills in Social Studies. The Social Studies Alternate Assessment will be provided by the Achievement and Assessment Institute (AAI) at the University of Kansas. This assessment is **not** a Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Social Studies assessment.

For more information on the testing window and calendar of important events, see the [Kansas DLM Testing Schedule 2017-18 \(docx\)](#).

Contact Information

Although the KS HGSS-AA is not a DLM assessment, the DLM Service Desk will be trained in all aspects of the Social Studies Alternate Assessment and will be available to answer questions. The DLM Service Desk can be reached via phone at 1-855-277-9751 or email at DLM-support@ku.edu.

Additional information is available on the [DLM Kansas webpage](#).

Checklists for Administering the KS HGSS-AA in KITE® Client

Before Beginning Assessments

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Step	Resources
	1. Confirm student eligibility to participate in the KS Alternate Assessment in Social Studies.	Participation Guidelines
	2. Read the KS HGSS-AA Social Studies TEST ADMINISTRATION GUIDE.	
	3. Gain access to Educator Portal (EP). Activate your account by following the instructions in the KITE activation email. You will not receive an activation email until your Data Manager uploads your information into EP (if you already have an EP account, skip this step).	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	4. Complete the Security Agreement in your EP profile.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	5. Complete the Required Test Administration Training.	Moodle
	6. Work with IEP teams to determine which accessibility supports should be provided for each student taking the KS HGSS-AA.	
	7. Review student demographic information in EP for accuracy and correct it as needed.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	8. Ensure student data is correct.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	9. Ensure roster data is correct.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	10. Ensure the Access (PNP) Profile is updated and complete in EP.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	11. Ensure your technology personnel have installed KITE Client on all testing devices.	District assessment coordinator or technology personnel

See also: The section called *Before Beginning Assessments* in the DLM [TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL](#).

Spring Operational Assessments

☑	Step	Resources
	1. Consider district and school assessment schedules to ensure students complete all KS HGSS-AA tasks during the spring testing window.	
	2. Schedule locations and times for assessment sessions.	
	3. Download the Testlet Information Page (TIP) PDF in Educator Portal.	EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
	4. Retrieve student's username and password from EP.	TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL section called View Student Username and Password

See also: The section called Spring Assessments in the DLM [TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL](#).

Test Session Names

Test session names for the KS HGSS-AA in Educator Portal are different than those for DLM English language arts (ELA), math, and science testlets. Here is a sample KS HGSS-AA test session name:

DLM Building ID Subject Grade State Student ID
DLM12345SocialStudies698765432

You can use the Building ID and Student ID to find your student in Educator Portal.

Testlet Delivery

Testlet Information Pages (TIPs) are delivered via Educator Portal in the same way as other DLM assessments. TIPs for the KS HGSS-AA provide the number of items, type of testlet, any materials needed to administer the testlet, and any words or concepts that should not be defined for the student while administering the testlet. An example TIP is pictured below.

This is a secure testing document. Do not reproduce or redistribute. Shred after use.

EXAMPLE KS HGSS-AA Grade 6

Testlet Information Page: SS12345

<p>Testlet Type: Computer-delivered</p> <p>Materials Needed: None</p> <p>Materials Use: None</p> <p>Suggested Substitute Materials: None</p> <p>Accessibility supports NOT allowed: Follow your state's guidance on the use of language translation. Definitions (see "other comments")</p> <p>Other comments: Test administrator should not define the following word(s) and concept(s): N/A</p>	<p>Number of Items: There are 6 items for the student. There is an additional item to be answered by the test administrator at the conclusion of the testlet.</p>
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Testing Experiences in KITE Client

Although the KS HGSS-AA is not a DLM assessment, the KS HGSS-AA will be delivered via the KITE system with DLM ELA, math, and science assessments. The KS HGSS-AA shares some similarities with DLM assessments, though they differ in many ways as well. The following tables highlight both common characteristics among the KS HGSS-AA and other DLM assessments, as well as key differences in the assessments.

Similarities between DLM Assessments and KS HGSS-AA

- Both assessments are delivered in KITE Client.
- Students are rostered in Educator Portal in the subject area being assessed.
- Accessibility features in KITE are available to all students in all subject areas.
- Testlet Information Pages (TIPs) can be downloaded in Educator Portal.

Differences between DLM Assessments and KS HGSS-AA

DLM Testlets	KS HGSS-AA Social Studies Testlets
Testlets are available in different levels of complexity. Students are assigned to testlets at a level of complexity based on their First Contact survey.	There is one social studies testlet per grade for all students enrolled in the KS HGSS-AA.
Students taking DLM assessments take multiple testlets to complete a testing session.	There is one social studies testlet per grade for all students enrolled in the KS HGSS-AA.
Testlets are adaptive. Students receive additional testlets at higher or lower levels of complexity based on their performance on previous testlets.	There is one social studies testlet per grade for all students enrolled in the KS HGSS-AA.
Depending on the level of complexity, some testlets are teacher-administered and are directed to the teacher. Testlets at higher levels of complexity are computer-delivered directly to the student.	Because there is only one social studies testlet available per grade, all items in the testlet are directed to the student. Test administrators should consider student accommodations and supports used during daily instruction and the unique needs of their individual students to determine how they will administer the testlet.
DLM testlets have three to five items.	Social studies testlets have six items.
Some DLM testlets require the teacher to gather some materials or objects in order to administer the assessment.	There are no materials needed to administer the assessment.
The number of sentences on a screen is limited in DLM assessments to reduce the need for scrolling. Sentences in stories are broken up among several screens, and often include supporting images.	Social studies testlets can have up to eight sentences on a screen. There are no images.

Testlet Structure

Testlets for the KS HGSS-AA begin with an introduction screen for students that is similar to DLM ELA, math, and science testlets. Students are instructed to read the texts and answer questions that follow the text.

Testlet screens in the KS HGSS-AA have the same buttons as those found in DLM alternate assessments. These buttons include back, next, and exit does not save as shown in the image below.



Typical HGSS-AA testlet screens and instructions are included in the table below.

Screen	Onscreen Instructions
Testlet introduction screen for students	Read the texts. Answer the questions after the texts. After you answer the questions, choose NEXT to continue. You can choose BACK to go back.
Conclusion screen for students <i>Test administrators will have the opportunity to record if the student was able to answer any questions in the testlet, with or without available supports. After the student completes the six items in a testlet, instructions will appear on the screen directing the student to ask his or her teacher for assistance.</i>	You are finished. Tell your teacher. Do not choose NEXT.
Conclusion item for test administrators <i>The test administrator will answer a question regarding the student’s ability to interact with the testlet.</i> <i>The test administrator may then choose NEXT to advance to the END screen. This is the end of the KS HGSS-AA testlet.</i>	Select the response that best describes the student’s interaction with this test: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student was able to answer one or more questions in this test, with or without available supports as described in the DLM TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL. • The student was not able to select any answer choices to any of the questions in this test, even with available supports. The student attended to other stimuli or provided no response at all.

Eligibility and Accessibility

Kansas alternate assessment participation criteria can be found in the Participation Guidelines for Kansas document on the [Kansas DLM webpage](#).

For more information about accessibility supports for the KS alternate assessment, see the DLM [ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL](#).