

House Bill 15-1323: Alternative Assessment Pilot Program

FACT SHEET

House Bill 15-1323 spans several education areas, including state assessments, accountability, educator effectiveness and assessment pilots. This summary provides initial information on the Alternative Assessment Pilot Program, established through legislation and in compliance with federal law.

Pilot Program Overview

The legislation allows local education providers (LEPs), individually or in combination with one or more other LEPs, to administer selected or created assessments in English language arts, math, science and social studies to prove the validity and reliability of those assessments. The goals of the pilot program are to identify assessments that provide more timely and relevant data to educators to inform instruction throughout the school year, while continuing to provide comparative data for state accountability purposes.

The pilot program will occur in two phases. Phase 1 begins in the 2015-16 school year and lasts two consecutive school years. Phase 2 will last up to two consecutive years and includes two LEPs selected from Phase 1 participants. At the end of Phase 2, CDE will recommend to the state board one of the local assessment systems for approval as the new state assessment system or recommend that the state continue administering the existing state assessments. *It is important to note that the pilot program will not result in the use of multiple systems of assessment in determining school or district accountability ratings; the end result will be a single statewide assessment system.*

Requirements for Participation

To participate in the pilot program an LEP must:

- Obtain a written resolution adopted by the local school board or other governing body that authorizes the LEP to participate
- Notify CDE at the beginning of each school year that it will administer pilot assessments and list those pilot assessments
- Notify parents that the LEP will administer pilot assessments pursuant to this legislation
- Work with the personnel performance evaluation council to select or create and administer pilot assessments in any participating school district

As a participant in the pilot program, the LEP should:

- Administer both the pilot assessments and the current state assessments (CDE made this determination following communications with the U.S. Department of Education)
- In Phase 1, administer pilot assessments in English Language Arts, math, science and social studies to all or a portion of students in at least one elementary, one middle and one high school grade for both years
- In Phase 2 (if selected), administer pilot assessments in all subject areas and at all grade levels required in the state assessment system for up to two years
- Gather and provide data to CDE each year that are sufficient to:
 - disaggregate and report results by student subgroup (gender, socioeconomic status, race and ethnicity, disability, English language proficiency and gifted and talented status)
 - measure each student's progress in meeting the state academic standards
- At the end of Phase 1 of the pilot program the LEP must:
 - Provide results for each year they administered the pilot assessments
 - Demonstrate that the results are comparable to the results obtained on the state assessments administered in the same school years
 - Provide data sufficient to determine validity and reliability of the pilot assessments

Alternative Assessment Pilot Program Highlights

- The goal of the program is to provide timely and relevant data to educators to inform instruction, while continuing to provide comparative data for state accountability purposes.
- Pilot participants are required to administer both the piloted and current state assessments for at least year one of the program.
- At the conclusion of the pilot program, CDE will recommend that the state board either retain the existing state assessment system or replace it with one of the piloted assessment systems.
- Legislation is required to replace the current assessment system with one of the piloted assessment systems at the conclusion of the program.

Timeline

	Prior to or at start of school year	During school year	After school year
Phase 1: All participating LEPs			
Year One SY 2015-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain local school board written resolution to participate Work with personnel performance evaluation council Create or select assessments Notify parents Notify CDE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer pilot assessments in English language arts, math, science and social studies to all or a portion of students in at least one elementary, one middle and one high school grade Administer existing state assessments in accordance with state law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect data sufficient to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> disaggregate and report results for student subgroups measure student's progress in meeting the state academic standards for each student
Year Two SY 2016-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify parents Notify CDE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as year one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide above data to CDE, plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results for each year they administered the pilot assessments Demonstration that the results are comparable to the results obtained on the state assessments administered in the same school years Data sufficient to determine validity and reliability of the pilot assessments
Post Phase 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDE reviews data to ensure that pilot assessment results are comparable to the state assessment system and pilot assessments are valid and reliable CDE recommends two LEPs to participate in Phase 2; the Colorado State Board of Education selects Phase 2 participants 		
Phase 2: beginning SY 2017-18 for up to two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local school board resolution to participate Work with personnel performance evaluation council Create or select assessments Notify parents Notify CDE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer pilot assessments and state assessments in all subject areas and grade levels in accordance with state law for up to two year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect data sufficient to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> disaggregate and report results for student subgroups measure student's progress in meeting the state academic standards for each student determine validity and reliability of the pilot assessments Provide results for each year they administered the pilot assessments Demonstrate that the results are comparable to the results obtained on the state assessments administered in the same school years
Post Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDE recommends to the Colorado State Board of Education to adopt one of the pilot assessment systems or to continue with the existing state assessment system State board decides whether to adopt a new system and, if so, notifies the General Assembly Implementation of a new state assessment system is conditional on the enactment of approving legislation 		

Where can I learn more?

- For more information or to notify CDE of your intent to participate in the pilot, contact Tricia Miller at miller_t@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-5735.
- For information on the current state assessment system, visit: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment>
- For a fact sheet on how H.B. 15-1323 affects school and district accountability: http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/hb_15-1323_accountability_guidance