

Louisiana Believes

**DRAFT: RFP Summary of State Assessments for
2015-2016 and Beyond**

BESE Directives

In March, BESE called on the Department to present a plan to review Louisiana's standards and secure future assessments while maintaining comparability across states, consistency for educators, and strong accountability.

This will ensure a Louisiana plan to continue on the path begun more than four years ago to raise student expectations and outcomes.



BESE required that, by no later than March 31, 2015, the LDE to post for public comment a summary draft of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to receive from multiple vendors competitive bids for Louisiana state assessments to be administered in 2016 and beyond, in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations.

Louisiana Assessment

Through this RFP the Department will build a set of Louisiana specific assessments that are guided by the following principles:

- **Consistency:** Test questions and procedures should be consistent with the rigor and types of questions Louisiana educators created and prepared for over the last five years.
- **Comparability:** While the test will be unique to Louisiana, test results should provide Louisiana parents a national comparison of their children's skills.
- **Teachers should have tools to diagnose student skills:** The request for proposals should require assessments that inform classroom teaching throughout the year, rather than just measure learning at the end of the year.
- **Reduce high school testing:** Through a phased-in, gradual approach, the request for proposals should end double testing in high school to increase teaching and learning time in the classroom.

K-2: Optional Tools for Teachers

Grade	ELA and Math	Science	Social Studies
 Current K -2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-Readiness: DSC • Basic reading: DIBELS • Math and ELA standards mastery: No formative tool to assist teachers 	N/A	N/A
 Future K -2	<p>Goal: Help districts improve benchmark testing and provide clarity on key skills in K-2.</p> <p>Improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSC and DIBELS flexibility • Optional diagnostic and formative tools aligned with standards and grade 3 assessments to guide teaching 	N/A	N/A

Grades 3-8: Consistency, Comparability, and Improvements

Grade	ELA and Math	Science	Social Studies
3 - 8 Current	LEAP and iLEAP <i>Exclusively PARCC questions</i>	LEAP and ILEAP	LEAP and ILEAP
3 - 8 Future	LEAP and iLEAP 2025 Goal: <i>Consistent, nationally comparable tests that help districts reduce testing through formative tools.</i> Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with question types and rigor from 2014-2015 • Include aligned diagnostic and formative assessments in all grades • Questions include those in which Louisiana educators participate in development and review • New sample test released each year for parents and educators (with exemplar student answers) 	LEAP and iLEAP 2025 Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade-specific 4th and 8th exams (no longer assess standards from previous grades; instead they will measure skills taught in that grade level) 	LEAP and iLEAP 2025 Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade-specific 4th and 8th exams (no longer assess standards from previous grades; instead they will measure skills taught in that grade level) • Aligned to 2011 Louisiana standards

High School: Reduce Testing

Grade	ELA and Math	Science	Social Studies
<p>High School</p> <p>Current</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 9: 2 math; 1 ELA (EOC and EXPLORE) • Grade 10: 2 math; 2 ELA (EOCs and PLAN) • Grade 11: 2 math; 2 ELA (EOCs and ACT) <p><i>Optional: WorkKeys, AP, IP, CLEP</i></p>	Biology EOC	US History EOC
<p>High School</p> <p>Future</p>	<p>Goal: Reduce testing and align to student pathways.</p> <p>Improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single assessment system in grades 9-10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 9: 1 math; 1 ELA (EOCs) • Grade 10: 1 math; 1 ELA (EOCs) • Grade 11: 1 math; 1 ELA (ACT) • Aligned with assessments in grade 3-8 • Include aligned diagnostic and formative assessments • Questions include those in which Louisiana educators participate in development and review • New sample test released each year for parents and educators (with exemplar student answers) <p><i>Optional: WorkKeys, AP, IB, CLEP</i></p>	No change	No change