



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

June 30, 2014

Sandra G. Gillen, Director of State Purchasing
Division of Administration
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Ms. Gillen:

The Department of Education has compiled the attached report in response to your request dated June 18, 2014, regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). The letter requested (1) a detailed report of all activities that have transpired since the execution of the MOU, (2) a detailed accounting of all products purchased or procured in performance of this MOU, and (3) any items and services currently under consideration between now and January 2016.

In 2010, recognizing a common need for high-quality standardized tests that would allow for the valid comparison of student achievement across states, a group of states formed the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). PARCC is not a testing services vendor. Instead, PARCC is a voluntary collaborative effort to design test questions and policies; it is not itself a provider of testing services. Participation by states in the consortium's design process, as indicated by the 2010 MOU signed by the Governor, BESE President, and State Superintendent, neither necessitated nor guaranteed that participating states would acquire the services of any particular vendor.

The development of PARCC test questions required no expenditures beyond those associated with typical, ongoing test question development activities. It further required no additional contractual obligations by the state. In fact, developing test questions through a consortium of states reduces the state's expenses for testing, as it spreads the costs of annual test question development across multiple organizations.

We have prepared the attached report to respond to your inquiries regarding PARCC activities; however, for the 2014-2015 school year, until its current testing services contracts come to a conclusion, the state intends a course of action consistent with past years, a cost no greater than in past years, and no additional testing services contracts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information about this important work.

Sincerely,

John C. White
State Superintendent of Education

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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Louisiana's Participation in the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

Introduction

In 2010, recognizing a common need for high-quality standardized tests that would allow for the comparison of student achievement across states, a group of states partnered to form a consortium that became known as PARCC. PARCC was a voluntary collaborative that engaged experts and educators from its member states to design the type of test that they envisioned. Participation by states in the consortium's design process, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding, neither necessitated nor guaranteed that they would acquire the services of any particular vendor.

A test vendor provides a wide variety of services. Those services can include the development of questions, field testing questions, psychometric analysis, test security, packaging, delivery, picking up, scoring and analysis, and public reporting of scores. PARCC, as a consortium of states, does not do most of these things. Instead, testing service vendors or states can use what PARCC has developed as part of efforts to provide such services.

Louisiana joined PARCC for its desire for an improved test design that allows for comparison of our students' achievement with their peers in other states. Not only has this been a priority for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, but also the Louisiana Board of Regents has significantly invested time in this project. Together, Louisiana's elementary, secondary, and postsecondary systems have worked over the past four years to develop higher quality assessments to validate that students graduating from high school do so truly prepared to succeed in their postsecondary pursuits.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for members of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness For College and Careers (PARCC) was signed in June 2010 by State Superintendent of Education Paul Pastorek, President of the State Board of Elementary Secondary Education Keith Guice, and Governor Bobby Jindal. The current State Superintendent of Education, John White, then signed this MOU in January 2012, re-affirming the state's commitment to the process.

PARCC's major purposes are to:

- Measure and document students' college and career readiness by the end of high school and progress toward this target. Students meeting the college and career readiness standards will be eligible for placement into entry-level credit bearing, rather than remedial, courses in public 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions in all participating states.
- Provide assessments and results that:
 - Are comparable across states;
 - Meet internationally rigorous benchmarks;
 - Allow valid measures of student longitudinal growth; and

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- Serve as a signal for good instructional practices.
- Support multiple levels and forms of accountability including:
 - Decisions about promotion and graduation for individual students;
 - Teacher and leader evaluations;
 - School accountability determinations;
 - Determinations of principal and teacher professional development and support needs; and
 - Teaching, learning and program improvement.
- Assess all students including English learners and students with disabilities.

As part of this report, the Division of Administration has requested (1) a detailed report of all activities that have transpired since the execution of the MOU, (2) a detailed accounting of all products purchased or procured in performance of this MOU, and (3) any items and services currently under consideration which may be purchased between now and January 2016.

EVENTS SINCE JUNE 2010

In response to the first request, the Department has compiled a list of events focused on achieving the purposes of the MOU and a list of deliverables completed in alignment with the MOU. While this list includes the majority of the events in which Louisiana Department of Education staff or Louisiana educators participated, the list does not include the ongoing work of reviewing test questions, reviewing test forms, and serving as on-call help for all committees in which they participate.

2010

Month	Event
June	MOU signed by Governor, BESE President, Superintendent, and Chief Procurement Officer (8 th -9 th)
August	Governing Board meeting (30 th)
September	State Lead Meeting (23 rd -24 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
October	State Lead Weekly Calls
November	State Lead Weekly Calls
December	Joint K-12/Higher Education Design & Development Meeting (8 th -9 th)
	Governing Board Meeting
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)

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2011

Month	Event
January	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
February	Joint K-12/Higher Education Design & Development Meeting (16 th -18 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
March	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
April	Governing Board Meeting (1 st)
	Mathematics Focus Workgroup (11 th)
	State Lead Meeting (26 th -27 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
May	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)

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Month	Event
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee
June	Implementation Institutes (6th-7th)
	State Lead Meeting (8 th)
	Governing Board Meeting (22 nd)
	State Lead Meeting (23 rd)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
July	Implementation Institute Webinar series
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
August	Joint K-12/Higher Education Design & Development Meeting (2 nd -3 rd)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee
September	Implementation Institute (8 th -9 th)
	State Lead Meeting (21 st)
	Governing Board Meeting (22 nd)
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (26 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)

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Month	Event
October	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee
November	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
December	Governing Board Meeting (16 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Design Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee

2012

Month	Event
January	Joint K-12/Higher Education Design & Development Meeting (17 th -18 th)
	Higher Education Leadership Team Meeting (18 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
February	Technical Issue and Policy Work Group Meeting (2 nd & 28 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
March	Implementation Institute (6 th -7 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
April	Governing Board Meeting (3 rd)
	Postsecondary Semi-Annual Meeting (25 th -26 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
May	State Lead Meeting (17 th -18 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee
June	State Lead Meeting (4 th -5 th)
	Technical Issue and Policy Work Group Meeting (14 th)
	State Lead Meeting (19 th)
	Higher Education Leadership Team Meeting (19 th)
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (19 th)
	Governing Board Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee on College Readiness (20 th)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
July	State Lead Meeting (17 th -18 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
August	State Lead Meeting (9 th -10 th)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	PARCC Educator Leader Cadre (21 st -23 rd)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)

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Month	Event
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
September	Governing Board Meeting (12 th)
	State Lead Meeting (19 th -20 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
October	State Lead Meeting (23 rd -24 th)
	Governing Board Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee on College Readiness (25 th)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review

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Month	Event
	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	Performance Level Descriptors Panels: High School
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness In-Person Meeting with the Technical Working Group
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Performance Level Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
November	State Lead Meeting (15 th -16 th)
	Performance Level Descriptors Panels: Grades 3 to 5
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Ad-hoc Pricing Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
December	Higher Education Leadership Team Meeting (12 th)
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (12 th)
	Governing Board Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee on College Readiness (13 th)
	State Lead Meeting (14 th)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	Performance Level Descriptors Panels: Grades 6 to 8
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Pricing Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
Technical Advisory Committee	

2013

Month	Event
January	Governing Board Meeting (7 th)
	State Lead Meeting (22 nd -24 th)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Bias & Sensitivity Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Content Review
	Performance Level Descriptors Panels: High School
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Procurement Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Pricing Weekly Calls
Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls	
Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)	
February	State Lead Meeting (20 th -21 st)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	PARCC Educator Leader Cadre (Feb 26 th -March 1 st)

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Month	Event
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Pricing Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
March	Governing Board Meeting (20 th)
	State Lead Meeting (25 th -27 th)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Content Review
	Mathematics Bias & Sensitivity Review
	Mathematics State Educator Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Non-Summative Assessment Development Convening



Month	Event
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
April	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
May	State Lead Meeting (29 th -31 st)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	Performance Level Descriptors Panels: All Grades
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness In-Person Meeting with the Manual Writing Team and the Technical Working Group
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
June	Higher Education Leadership Team Meeting (25 th)
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (25 th)
	Governing Board Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee on College Readiness (26 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee
July	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Content Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	Postsecondary Semi-Annual Meeting (22 nd to 23 rd)
	State Lead Meeting (31 st to August 1 st)

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Month	Event
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
August	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	Mathematics Bias & Sensitivity Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Mathematics State Educator Review
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)

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Month	Event
September	State Lead Meeting (10 th -11 th)
	Governing Board Meeting (25 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
October	Governing Board Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee on College Readiness (16 th)
	State Lead Meeting (16 th -18 th)
	Test Administration Manual Review Meeting (22 nd)
	PARCC Educator Leader Cadre (8 th -11 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls	



Month	Event
	Ad-hoc Committee on Score Reporting Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
November	State Lead Meeting (19 th -21 st)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
December	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (4 th)
	Governing Board Meeting (5 th)
	State Lead Meeting (18 th to 19 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting) Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	Ad-hoc Committee on Growth Metrics Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
	Technical Advisory Committee

2014

Month	Event
January	State Lead Meeting (29 th -31 st)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Passage Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)

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Month	Event
February	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	State Lead Meeting (26 th -27 th)
	Implementation Institute (28th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
March	English Language Arts/Literacy State Educator Content Review
	Mathematics State Educator Review
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (24 th)
	Governing Board Meeting (31 st)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls

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Month	Event
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
April	State Lead Meeting (1 st - 2 nd)
	English Language Arts/Literacy Bias & Sensitivity Item Review
	Mathematics Bias & Sensitivity Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)
May	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
	Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)

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Month	Event
	Technical Advisory Committee
June	English Language Arts/Literacy Core Leadership Item Review
	Mathematics Core Leadership Review
	Advisory Committee on College Readiness Measures Meeting (4 th -5 th)
	Governing Board Meeting (5 th)
	Postsecondary Semi-Annual Meeting (16 th -17 th)
	State Lead Weekly Calls (each week without an in-person meeting)
	Technology Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	English Language Arts/Literacy Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Mathematics Operational Working Group Weekly Calls
	Research and Psychometrics Committee Weekly Calls
	Accessibility, Accommodations and Fairness Weekly Calls
	Test Administration Weekly Calls
	State Field Test Contact Weekly Calls
Higher Education Leadership Team Calls (twice monthly except for in-person meetings noted separately)	

These ongoing engagements have yielded a set deliverables that put the consortium on track to achieve the purposes outlined at the start of this report. See below for a timeline of key deliverables.

September 2010	Consortia launched with first Governing Board meeting
November 2011	Summative assessment design launched
June 2011	Final PARCC assessment system design approved
	PARCC by-laws approved
November 2011	PARCC Model Content Frameworks released
December 2011	Approval of Key Matters for College and Career Readiness
April 2012	PARCC Evidence Statements, Task Models, and Blueprints Released
	PARCC minimum technology specifications released
July 2012	Educator Leader Cadres launched
August 2012	PARCC item prototypes released
October 2012	College- and Career-Ready Determination policy approved and released
March 2013	Comprehensive assessment administration guidance and planning tools released
July 2013	Grade-specific performance-level descriptors for mathematics and

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	ELA/literacy released
	PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual approved and released
	PARCC summative tests preliminary cost estimates released
August 2013	PARCC sample items released
By September 2013	More than 10,000 test questions, including writing tasks and technology-enhanced item types, developed with the input of more than 800 educators
December 2013	Data privacy and security policy approved and released
January 2014	PARCC practice test released
March 2014	On-time launch of PARCC's field test with nearly one million students (45,000 in Louisiana)
May 2014	PARCC summative tests updated cost estimates released
	Diagnostic assessment development launched
June 2014	Successful completion of PARCC's field test with nearly one million students (45,000 in Louisiana)
	K-1 formative tool development launched
	Speaking and listening assessment development launched

PURCHASES SINCE 2010

The Department of Education has not purchased any products nor has it procured any materials or services in performance of this MOU. All efforts to achieve the goals of the MOU have been conducted by the staff of the Department of Education and Louisiana educators. Thus far, these activities have been restricted to the development of test questions, the development of testing policies, and the administration of the PARCC field test. None of these activities have required the purchase of products or the procurement of materials and services, and none have required costs above and beyond typical, annual test question and policy development.

FUTURE ITEMS AND SERVICES

For the 2014-2015 school year, until its current testing services contracts come to a conclusion, the state intends a course of action consistent with past years, a cost no greater than in past years, and no additional testing services contracts. Neither the vendor nor the contract for assessments in grades 3 to 8 will change under the Department's current plans for 2014-2015. Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) remains responsible for "support services related to Louisiana's current assessment program, which includes, development of test forms, printing, distributing and collecting materials, scoring and reporting, and all psychometric services related to these assessment activities," as it has in all other years of these contracts.

Since 2001, DRC has been awarded multiple competitively bid contracts to deliver assessments in grades 3 to 8 in Louisiana. The current contracts for grades 3 to 8 assessments – approved by the current Director of the Office of Contractual Review – continue through 2014-15. As in all prior years, the contracts require DRC to deliver and score all such tests in all subjects (math, English language arts, science and social studies). As happens on an annual basis, the test questions will be change in 2015 to ensure security and to align to the state's learning standards, as well as to comply with state laws

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regarding academic standards and assessment. And as has been the case previously, the test will include questions developed by vendors other than DRC. Some material will have been developed through the PARCC process; other materials will have been developed through other processes.

Additional Clarifications

A letter dated June 18, 2014 from Pamela Rice, Director of the Office of Contractual Review (OCR), describes the scope of the two current testing services contracts with DRC, one of the state's long-standing assessment vendors. As there are some discrepancies in this communication, we would like to provide the following clarifications.

- (1) Louisiana has two long-standing contracts with Data Recognition Corporation related to testing services in math, English language arts, science and social studies, both of which came to be through the state's procurement process.**

Contract 603573

Awarded in response to a competitive bid and approved by OCR in October 2003, this contract ensures testing services for grades 3, 5, 6, and 7.

Contract 704708

Prior to this contract, DRC won two competitive bids (2001-2005 and 2005-2011) to provide testing services in grades 4 and 8, as well as alternate assessments for certain students with disabilities (LAA 1, LAA 2) and the consortia-created English Language Development Assessment (ELDA).

- (2) Louisiana will not shift to a separate assessment vendor in 2014-2015.**

PARCC is not a test vendor, as assumed in Ms. Rice's letter. Per 704708 and 603573, which OCR approved through 2015, Louisiana will continue to administer all tests through its long-standing, state-approved vendor, Data Recognition Corporation, for the 2014-2015 school year.

DRC will continue to update and refresh test questions, including but not limited to those created by Louisiana educators and educators from across the country through the PARCC consortia. These questions will be delivered via DRC's technology platform, with DRC collecting the results, scoring the results, and analyzing the results.

Examples of the numerous times that DRC has updated test questions, including procuring test questions from other vendors, include the below. In instances where the adjustments required changes in cost, the Department sought and received approval from OCR for amendments to the contracts.

- Since the beginning of Contract 603573, DRC has purchased test questions and reading passages from other parties, including the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, many of which required no change in cost and thus no amendment to the contract.

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- Likewise, since the beginning of Contract 704708 (and the preceding, identical contract 626435), DRC has procured and administered the ELDA assessment – test questions created by a consortium rather than by DRC alone for English language learners.
- Because of changes in cost, OCR has approved several amendments related to questions that measure Common Core State Standards. In December 2011, for example, OCR approved an amendment to Contract 704708 as follows: “The services to be provided through this amendment include the **development of test forms for English language art, writing and mathematics in grades 3-8, field testing of new forms, and construction of transitional test.** The purpose is to increase the rigor and ensure **better alignment of state assessments with the Common Core State Standards** and with the common state assessments that will be implemented in 2014-15.”
- Likewise, in 2013, OCR approved an amendment to Contract 704708 as follows: “The services to be provided through this amendment include **additional test development**, psychometric and reporting activities related to Louisiana’s statewide assessments. The purpose of this amendment is **to ensure better alignment of state assessments with the Common Core State Standards through updates and modifications to the current test forms**, as created by DRC per this contract.”

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