

Bulletin No. 05.01

April 6, 2005

## TOPIC: State Assessment Changes for 2005-06

Many changes in Wisconsin's assessment program have occurred as a result of the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). This bulletin highlights key changes to the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations – Criterion Referenced Tests (WKCE-CRT) that will occur in the 2005-06 school year.

### WKCE-CRT

**Testing Window: October 24-November 25, 2005**

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires states to test all students in reading and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and once in high school (grade 10 under Wisconsin law s. 118.30). These tests are referred to as the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations – Criterion Referenced Tests (WKCE-CRT). In the fall of 2005, they will replace the WKCE reading and mathematics tests previously administered at grades 4, 8, and 10. Student performance on these new tests is reported in proficiency categories and used to determine adequate yearly progress (AYP) of schools, districts, and the state. Other Wisconsin Student Assessment System tests – Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Writing will continue to be given at grades 4, 8, and 10.

### WKCE-CRT On-Line Record Editing System (RES)

The On-Line Record Editing System (RES) was initiated in January, 2005, and allows districts to directly access their individual student demographic and assessment data. As a result, districts can:

- Identify and correct demographic “Errors” – either on-line or off-line.
- Review and download student assessment results.
- Validate WKCE data including Wisconsin Alternate Assessment (WAA) data.

This system replaces the paper-based system used in previous years.

### WKCE-CRT On-Line Reporting System

The WKCE-CRT On-Line Reporting System is a web-based application and is a secure site designed to view all assessment results – those results reported to the public with suppressed data and those district and school reports containing individual student data. The public reports are pre-designed files that can be viewed on-line or downloaded. The reports containing data for individual students can only be viewed, downloaded, and shared at the district and school level by authorized persons. Access to the WKCE-CRT On-Line Reporting System requires a unique

username and password. Users are restricted to viewing the data for their district or school depending on their role. These reports will be available the first week in April, 2005.

## **WKCE-CRT 2005-06 Calculator Use**

- Grades 3 & 4 – No calculators will be permitted during any session. Only students whose individualized education plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan allows the accommodation of calculator usage may use a calculator for non-computation sessions of the mathematics test.
- Grades 5, 6, 7, 8, & 10 – A calculator is required for mathematics tests. In grades 5-8, all students must have either a four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator during calculator-required sessions. In grade 10, all students must have either a scientific or graphing calculator. (**Note:** A graphing calculator offers no advantage to students during the test.)
- Calculators with QWERTY keyboards or infrared capabilities are not permitted. Students must disable specified functions and clear the memory on graphing calculators prior to the test. Cell phones as well as personal digital assistants (PDAs) will not be allowed in the classroom during the test.
- In grades 5-8, anything other than a four-function calculator offers no advantage to students during the test. Students with IEPs or Section 504 plans allowing accommodations may use the calculator for non-computation sessions of the mathematics tests.

## **Testing English Language Learners (ELLs)**

**Testing Window: September 1 – November 25, 2005**

The Wisconsin Student Assessment System Alternate Assessment is required for English language learners using one of four evaluation instruments (see [dpi.wi.gov/oea/ells.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/ells.html)). The Alternate Assessment is:

- Targeted for English language learners at English language proficiency levels 1 and 2, as determined by a state-approved, standardized English language proficiency test;
- Built on content areas, including language arts/reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies;
- Anchored in the alternate performance indicators of the state's academic content standards;
- Drawn from identified curricular topics in each content area; and
- Scored with a standard set of rubrics crafted for English language learners.

## **Testing Students with Disabilities (SwD)**

**Testing Window: September 1 – November 25, 2005**

The Wisconsin Student Assessment System Alternate Assessment is required for all students with disabilities not participating in the WKCE-CRT or WKCE-CRT with accommodations (see [dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlse/een/assmt-waa.html](http://dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlse/een/assmt-waa.html)). Please refer to the 2005-06 WKCE-CRT Assessment Guidelines and Accommodations for ELL and SwD students at [dpi.wi.gov/oea/specneed.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/specneed.html)

For more information on educational assessment in Wisconsin, visit:

<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/oea/asssmt.html>