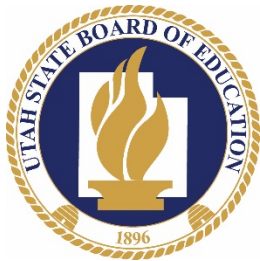EDUCATION

THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Report to the Education Interim Committee

Assessment Waivers, 2019-2020 School Year

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Assessment Waivers, 2019-2020 School Year

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is provided to the Education Interim Committee. It identifies the statutory requirements, including programs, reports, evaluations, and accountability measures, impacted by the assessment waiver and describes how each statutory requirement is impacted by the assessment waiver. It discusses the data which the State Board has not collected or will not collect because of the assessment waiver and has collected or will collect despite the assessment waiver. The report also identifies the statutory requirements with which the State Board or an LEA has not fully complied or will not fully comply because of the assessment waiver and describes the extent to which the State Board or an LEA has complied or will comply with statutory requirements.

ASSESSMENT WAIVERS, 2019-2020 School Year

Senate Bill 3005, which passed during the Utah Legislature's 3rd Special Session of 2020 and signed into law on April 22, 2020, included the waiver of the basics civics test graduation requirement, in addition to waiving certain assessments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill also established a requirement that the Utah State Board of Education submit a written or oral report to the Education Interim Committee, detailing the statutory requirements, programs, reports, evaluations, and accountability measures impacted by the assessment waiver.

On March 13, 2020 Governor Gary Herbert announced "Utah's public schools will implement a two-week soft closure" which eventually turned into remote learning for all of Utah's public education students for the remainder of the school year. The inability to meet in face-to-face settings, interrupted all aspects of the instructional cycle and interfered with every school's ability to gather student achievement data from state assessments. Because most state assessments are administered in the spring, the waiver on the requirement to administer these assessments was very beneficial to Utah's students and educators. Waiving these requirements meant that schools could focus on the challenges of maintaining a continuity of instructional service, minimizing trauma and stress, and striving to meet the needs of each student during this unanticipated period of remote learning. The table below details the

sections of statute that were impacted by the assessment waivers, including how each statute is associated with accountability measures, which data were able to be collected in SY 20, and additional notes regarding specific requirements.

Statutory Requirement	Accountability Measure	Performance Measure	Reports/ Evaluations	Data Collected SY 20	Notes
53E-4-205 - Basic Civics Test	Graduation Requirement			4,802 waivers approved	Supporting evidence contains the number of LEAs that requested individual waivers for this requirement and the number each requested
53E-5-211 - Reporting (School Accountability System)	Utah School Report Card			Consistent attendance; English learner progress; Readiness coursework; Post-secondary enrollment; Graduation rate, Teacher experience; Course offerings	USBE will publish a school report card with available data. The current school accountability system includes data that we were able to collect and publish on the 2019 school report card. While we will publish 2019 school report cards, they will not contain indicator ratings
53E-5-302 - School Turnaround and Leadership Development				None	USBE was unable to designate low-performing schools due to the suspension of assessment. USBE established a review panel to allow cohort I and II Turnaround schools an opportunity to provide evidence they would have exited from Turnaround, if SY 2020 assessments would have occurred
53E-4-303 - Utah Standards Assessment (RISE grades 3-8)	Achievement and growth	Several measures under Related to Basic, General System Support, and Initiative Programs		None	Schools were unable to administer these summative assessments
53E-4-304 - High School Assessment (Utah Aspire Plus)	Achievement and growth	Several measures under General System Support		None	Schools were unable to administer these summative assessments
53E-4-305 - College Readiness Assessment (ACT)	Post-secondary readiness	One measure under Related to Basic		32,921 scores from statewide testing date. Vouchers used: June - 1,660; July - 1,272	The soft-closure order occurred during the administration window of the 11th grade ACT. Students in schools that selected the first administration window were able to complete this assessment. USBE worked with The ACT to acquire ACT vouchers for the remaining students which allows them to take the test at an available national test administration setting

Statutory Requirement	Accountability Measure	Performance Measure	Reports/ Evaluations	Data Collected SY 20	Notes
53E-4-307 - Benchmark Reading (Acadience)	Reported but not included in the school rating			No EOY data	The reading benchmark is administered three times per year; beginning of year (BOY), middle of year (MOY), and end of year (EOY). The EOY data is used to determine the effectiveness of each LEA's reading program. We did collect BOY and MOY data, which will be very helpful as we look to analyze the impacts of COVID-19
53E-4-310 - Reports of Results (Academic Standards, Assessments, and Materials)					USBE, LEAs, & schools were unable to meet the reporting requirement due to the suspension of assessment
53E-4-311 - Analysis of Results (Academic Standards, Assessments, and Materials)					USBE, LEAs, & schools were unable to meet the reporting requirement due to the suspension of assessment
53E-4-314 - School Readiness Assessment (PEEP)	For specific school readiness programs		Preschool grant programs evaluation (USBE) and the report on the adoption of benchmarks for performance (School Readiness Board)	No EOY data	This assessment has an entry and exit component. The entry component was administered but we were unable to complete the requirement for administering the exit component.
53F-2-513 - Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program			May impact program evaluation for November 2021.	No	USBE is unable to determine eligibility of teachers for this program for this identification cycle. This statute provides additional compensation to certain teachers, based on the growth of their students as determined by the RISE or Benchmark Reading results.
53F-2-503 - Early Literacy Program	Specific to this program		Early Literacy Program Report (included in the Superintendent's Annual Report)		LEA's were not able to "report progress in meeting goals" due to the suspension of assessment because their progress is determined by the results of the EOY Benchmark Reading assessments.
53F-4-510 - Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP)	Specific to this program			None	SOEP providers were unable to meet the requirement to administer the required assessments.
53F-4-511 - Report on Performance of Online Course Providers (SOEP)	Specific to this program			None	USBE was unable to meet these reporting requirements due to the suspension of assessment

Statutory Requirement	Accountability Measure	Performance Measure	Reports/ Evaluations	Data Collected SY 20	Notes
53F-4-512 - Dissemination of Information on SOEP	Specific to this program				Online course providers were unable provide the required reports
53F-5-203 - Interventions for Reading Difficulties	Specific to this program			None	Grantees were unable to meet this reporting requirement due to the suspension of assessment
53F-5-207 - Intergenerational Poverty Interventions	Specific to this program		Intergenerational Poverty Interventions Grant Program academic achievement information reported to the Utah Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission (Education Interim upon request) (2021)	None	USBE was unable to meet all of the reporting requirements of this statute. Report typically includes end of year assessment data e.g. Acadience Reading, RISE, and Utah ASPIRE Plus.
53F-5-210 - Educational Improvement Opportunities Outside of the Regular School Day	Specific to this program			None	Grantees were unable to meet these reporting requirements
53F-2-507 - Enhanced kindergarten early intervention program (KEEP)		One measure under Related to Basic		No EOY data	This assessment has an entry and exit component. The entry component was administered but we were unable to complete the requirement for administering the exit component.
53F-5-405 - Evaluation - Reporting (Partnerships for Student Success Program)		Several measures under Initiative Programs	Partnerships for Student Success Evaluation (2021)		Evaluation typically includes end of year assessment data e.g. KEEP, Acadience Reading, and RISE.
53F-4-407 - Annual report (UPSTART)			UPSTART evaluation		Some required information will not be included in the report e.g. student performance on exit assessment
53F-4-203 Early interactive reading software -- Independent evaluator			Early Intervention Reading Software Program Evaluation		End of year assessment data not able to be included. Instead will compare BOY to MOY data.
Federal ESSA Title III – English Language Proficiency (WIDA ACCESS 2.0)	Yes			All	LEAs were able to complete the 2020 WIDA ACCESS 2.0 administration prior to the soft closure of schools and the data will be included on the 2020 school report card
		One measure under Fine Arts Outreach: Efficacy of Education Programming as Determined by Peer Review			Peer reviews were not completed before school closure

APPENDIX A. Basic Civics Test Waiver Requests

Timestamp	Email Address	Name and Title	LEA	Number
4/21/2020 8:51:31	alex@ffchs.org	Alex Garrett; Vice Principal/Assessr	Fast Forward Charter High School	56
4/21/2020 9:21:16	mmcphail@providencehall	Melissa McPhail Assistant Principal	Providence hall	5
4/21/2020 10:04:58	halis.kablan@beehiveacad	Halis Kablan, Assistant Principal	Beehive Science and Technology Academy	20
4/21/2020 11:02:12	Bwilson@ames-slc.org	Brett Wilson, Principal/CEO	Academy for Math, Engineering & Science	114
4/21/2020 11:35:35	kwalker@ehhs.us	Katrina Walker - Director	East Hollywood High School	6
4/21/2020 12:49:14	mindy.deets@uintah.net	Mindy Deets/Counselor	Andy McKea	12
4/21/2020 13:26:58	frank.schofield@loganschc	Frank Schofield, Superintendent	Logan City School District	70
4/21/2020 14:26:56	michael.willes@seviersd.c	Michael Willes - Assistant Superinte	Sevier School District	123
4/21/2020 16:05:07	rachel.barlow@meritacade	Rachel Barlow, Teacher	Merit Preparatory Academy	4
4/21/2020 16:47:19	rhonaker@saltlakespa.org	Dr. Randy Honaker, Principal/Direct	Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts	20
4/22/2020 12:08:34	nan.ault@nsanpete.org	Nan Ault	North Sanpete School District	36
4/23/2020 14:31:34	brett.zabel@wasatch.edu	Brett Zabel, Assessment Specialist	Wasatch School District	33
4/23/2020 15:29:55	terryt@kanek12.org	Travis Terry	Kane	18
4/23/2020 15:56:46	kris.groves@ironmail.org	Kris Groves - School Counselor	Iron County School District	17
4/24/2020 8:52:25	sheiter@wsd.net	Sheri W. Heiter - Director of Curricu	Weber School District	281
4/24/2020 11:35:06	ralph.squire@ssanpete.org	Assistant Superintendent	South Sanpete School District	48
4/24/2020 12:10:40	blake.pickett@ccsdut.org	Blake Pickett Director of Assessmer	Cache County School District	129
4/24/2020 14:54:27	afrink@pcschools.us	Andrew Frink, Chief Information Off	Park City School District	133
4/27/2020 7:51:34	ben.jameson@jordandistri	Ben Jameson, Assessment Director	Jordan School District	518
4/27/2020 10:22:47	brad.ferguson@washk12.c	Director of Assessment & Learning	Washington County School District	248
4/27/2020 10:27:08	steveng@emeryschools.o	Steven Gordon Principal	Emery High School	8
4/27/2020 12:42:53	lynese.miller@garfk12.org	LyNese Miller, Assessment Director	Garfield County School District	1
4/27/2020 18:05:48	bedontk@carbonschools.c	Karen Bedont: Vice Principal	Carbon High School	7
4/28/2020 7:04:14	katherinec@usdb.org	Katherine Crum, Assessment Direc	USDB	2
4/28/2020 9:47:08	rlaverett@graniteschools.c	Director, Student Assessment	Granite School District	1048
4/28/2020 13:33:49	dmower@alpinedistrict.org	David Mower - Director	Alpine School District	786
4/28/2020 13:42:31	dbushek@tooeleschools.c	Debra Bushek, Director of Assessm	Tooele County School District	2
4/29/2020 7:33:16	toddm@provo.edu	Todd McKee, Assistant Superintenc	Provo City School District	126
4/30/2020 8:42:54	adone@sjsd.org	Anthony Done - Assessment Direct	San Juan	23
5/1/2020 11:20:51	hal.sanderson@canyonsd	Director of Research & Assessment	Canyons School District	187
5/8/2020 11:46:02	hrens@grandschools.org	Principal	Grand	25
5/11/2020 12:54:08	george.richardson@millar	George Richardson, Director Secon	Millard	22
5/11/2020 14:18:00	michelle.amiot@slcschool:	Michelle Amiot, Director of Assessm	Salt Lake City School District	224
5/12/2020 7:26:54	hailey.orr@uintah.net	Hailey Orr. School Counselor	Uintah High School, Sharon Shipton	1
5/12/2020 13:00:38	jmagalei@dsdmail.net	Janeal Magalei Assessment Direct	Davis School District	94
5/12/2020 14:14:26	jennifer.denhalter@ironma	Jennifer Denhalter: Counselor	Iron County School District	25
5/14/2020 7:52:43	mcmickella@ogdensd.org	Adam McMickell, Director of Studer	Ogden School District	187
5/15/2020 11:24:45	Michelle.Amiot@slcschool	Michelle Amiot, Assessment Direct	Salt Lake City School District	42
5/26/2020 22:10:09	lhaslam@spectrumcharter	Lauren Haslam, Assessment Coord	Spectrum Academy	32
5/28/2020 10:48:39	darrell.eddington@besd.n	Darrell Eddington - Director	Box Elder School District	69