

**Information from the Oregon Department of Education about parents' right to opt students out of state testing is available for pick-up from the school office starting January 1, 2016. The information includes the state's official notice and opt-out form. Please contact an administrator if you have questions about the opt-out process, or about state tests given in our school.**



## 2015-16 Notice for Statewide Tests

### ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE PREPARED

In 2010, Oregon adopted higher K-12 standards in English Language Arts and Math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success beyond high school. Because we raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, we have also changed the way we measure student progress through our state tests, known as Smarter Balanced.

How much time do the tests take?

The tests are not timed so your child can take as long as he or she needs to fully demonstrate what he or she knows and can do. With our new exams, your child only tests once each year, unlike our previous exams which many students took multiple times. Learn more about the estimated time your child may take to complete the tests on Page 35 of Oregon's Test Administration Manual: <http://tinyurl.com/TestAdminManual>.

What do the results mean and where do I get my child's results?

Test results identify your child's strengths and areas for improvement in English Language Arts and Math. Each subject will be broken into categories and will show how well your child performed in each area. The tests measure student learning on a 4-point scale. Your school will share your child's scores with you at the beginning of the next school year to help support your child's success as he or she moves from grade to grade.

Why does participation matter?

While no single test can give a complete picture of your child's progress, having your child take the statewide tests provides educators and administrators with information about what educational approaches are working and where additional resources are needed. Your child's participation is important to ensure schools and districts receive the targeted resources they need to help all students succeed.

When will my child take the test?

Your child will be tested once after he or she has completed at least two-thirds of the school year. Your child's school will determine the specific dates your child takes the tests within the statewide testing window above.

### OREGON'S STATE TESTS

- o Challenge your child to think critically and apply his or her knowledge to real-world problems
- o Go beyond multiple choice and ask your child to explain his or her answers
- o Act as a snapshot of your child's progress and may be considered along with other pieces of information to determine your child's academic success
- o Help identify schools and districts that need additional supports to ensure more students are meeting higher standards

### STATEWIDE TESTING WINDOWS

Smarter Balanced English Language Arts &  
Math Tests  
February 9 - June 10, 2016

Oregon Extended Assessments for English  
Language Arts & Math  
February 18 - April 28, 2016

## STAY INFORMED

Talk to your child's teacher or school principal if you have questions or want to learn more. Patience and persistence will be required to help our students and schools continue towards success.

### Resources

To learn more about what your child should know and be able to do in English language Arts & Math:

<http://tinyurl.com/EIARoadmap> & <http://tinyurl.com/MathRoadmap>

To view sample test questions: <http://tinyurl.com/ORPracticeTests>

To read more about your child's results: <http://tinyurl.com/ORTestResults>