

# 14 Facts New Mexicans Need to Know About the Next-Generation Assessments: PARCC



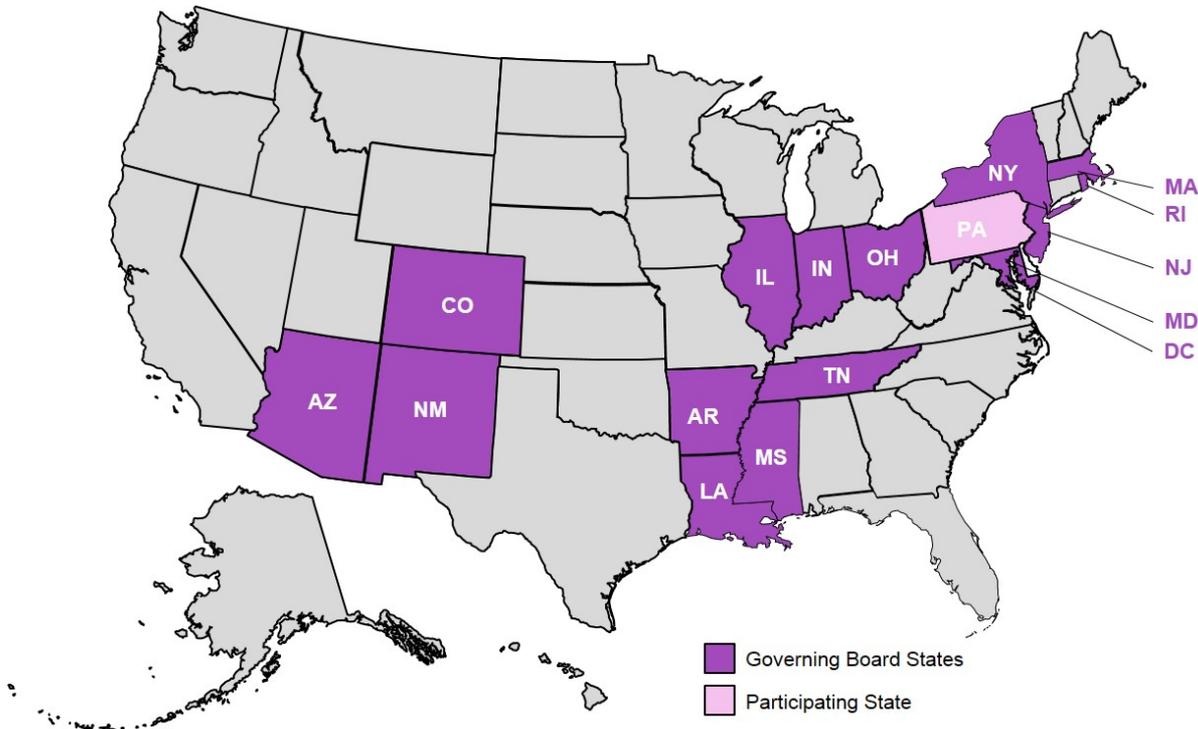
LESC  
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# New Standards Require New Tests



- New Mexico adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in 2010
- The Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests are aligned to the CCSS
- The CCSS are designed to better prepare students for college and the workforce
- PARCC will provide valid and reliable data to measure a student's college and career readiness

# #1. New Mexico is a member of the PARCC Consortium of States.



Partnership for  
Assessment of  
Readiness for  
College and  
Careers

## #2. CCSS and PARCC underscore that New Mexico families deserve a better education system.



National test show nearly 8 out of 10 New Mexico 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are not reading on grade level



Currently, NM loses 67 high school students per day



In just 6 years, New Mexico will need nearly 50,000 employees who are trained in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; 63% will require a bachelors degree or higher



Since 2003, New Mexico taxpayers have paid an additional \$543,291,900 in educator salary increases for very little improvement in student achievement

(Source: <http://www.nmemployabilityboard.com/education/>)

### #3. A PARCC “membership” has many benefits to New Mexico’s students, educators and parents.



- Higher quality, innovative and online assessments at an affordable cost
- Detailed reports that show meaningful achievement growth indicating if a child is on track for college or skilled career workforce
- Assessments that measure the full range of students’ abilities that better meet accommodations for ALL students, including students with disabilities and English Learners

# #4: In 2014-15 NMPARCC will replace the Math, Reading and Writing NMSBA & HSGA.

| <b>NMSBA</b> | <b>NMPARCC</b>                       |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mathematics  | Mathematics                          |
| Reading      | English Language                     |
| Writing      | Arts/Literacy<br>(Reading & Writing) |

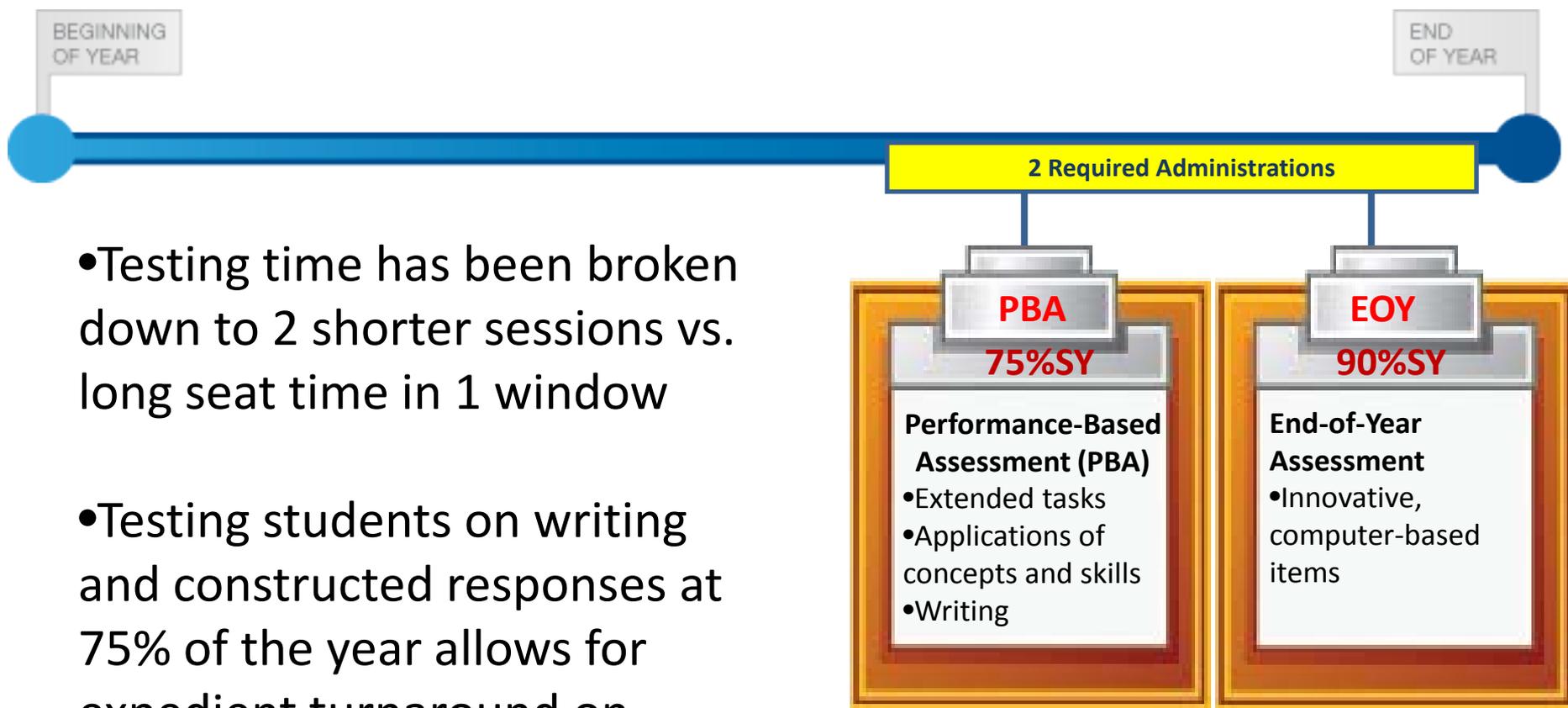
Science NMSBA will continue to be utilized

# New Mexico has Transitioned to New Assessments Before

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- A state-wide transition to a new assessment is NOT a new concept
- Because the standards are more rigorous, student achievement scores may dip
  - This dip doesn't mean that students did not learn as much or teachers did not teach as well
  - This dip will be short-term and will improve as teachers and students become more familiar with the CCSS

# #5: The PARCC Assessment Design allows students to demonstrate mastery of the full range of CCSS skills.



- Testing time has been broken down to 2 shorter sessions vs. long seat time in 1 window
- Testing students on writing and constructed responses at 75% of the year allows for expedient turnaround on student achievement scores

## #6. The average testing time will not increase from what students have experienced taking the NMSBA.

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- On average it will take a students a total of 9 hours to complete NMPARCC, which includes 5 hours for PBA and 4 hours for EOY
- This time is comparable to the time students took to complete previous administrations of the NMSBA
  - Keep in mind writing is assessed at every grade on NMPARCC

# #7. The NMPARCC Assessments will be given in 2 separate testing windows.

| Window 1     | Students will take 3 Sessions of ELA and 2 Sessions of Math after approximately 75% of the school year |   |  |   |   |
|--------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| PARCC<br>PBA | Session 1<br>ELA   | Session 2<br>ELA  | Session 3<br>ELA   | Session 1<br>Math   | Session 2<br>Math   |
|              |                       |  |  |  |  |

| Window 2     | Students will take 2 session of ELA and 2 Sessions of Math after 90% of the school year |   |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| PARCC<br>EOY | Session 1<br>ELA  | Session 2<br>ELA  | Session 1<br>Math   | Session 2<br>Math   |
|              |      |  |  |  |



# #8. New Mexicans are building PARCC Assessments.

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Over 60 NM Educators from K-12 and institutions of higher education have reviewed and approved PARCC Math and English language Arts assessment questions and 1000's have been trained on PARCC teacher resources

- Item Content
- Item Bias & Accessibility
- Feedback on PARCC Resources
- Informing PARCC Policies

Listen to our educators talk about NMPARCC [here](#)

# In Reading and Writing, students will have to:



- Show they can read and understand complex passages

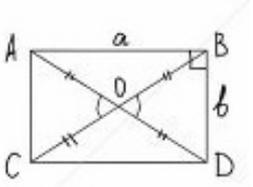


- Write persuasively
- Conduct research and present findings



- Demonstrate speaking and listening skills

# In Math, students will have to:



Show their work and demonstrate that they understand a concept rather than simply memorize a formula

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

Compute quickly and accurately



Apply their mathematical knowledge to solve real-world problems

# #9 New Mexico Schools Participated in the Spring 2014 PARCC Field Test.

- 69 New Mexico Districts and Charters volunteered to participate.
- 11,997 New Mexico students participated in the PARCC Field Test
- New Mexico represents 1.5% of the national sample; 790,000 students across 15 states



# A Field Test is a “test of the test”

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- Not intended to yield scores/data for students or schools
- Results are used to determine if the questions function as intended
- Results inform several research questions which include:
  - comparison of paper- vs. computer-based
  - differences in student performance between tablets, desktops and laptops

# Voices from the Field Test

## Grade 4

*“This is a very cool test, the tools are awesome, and I learned a lot!”*

## Grade 7

*“The test actually went fairly well, and there were no messups, errors, viruses, etc. that interfered with the test. I liked doing it, and the person who gave the directions was very helpful and he would answer any question asked (if there were any).”*

## Grade 10

*“Everthing was fine on the test because i have SWAG.”*

# #10. New Mexico students will take PARCC tests online.



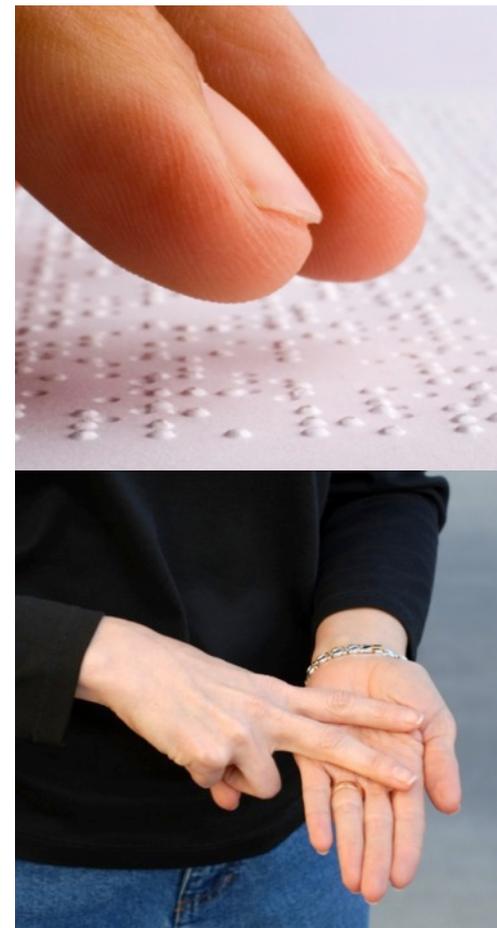
Nearly 1 million students took part in the spring 2014 PARCC Field Test. Students reported:

- Engaging, innovative items
- Online tools enhance the testing experience
- They are able to demonstrate what they know vs. what they don't know

# #11. PARCC is designed to be accessible to students with disabilities and English Learners.

*Some PARCC features that will help students with disabilities or those learning English show what they know and can do:*

- Highlighting
- Customized colors
- Text to speech
- Captions for audio
- Home language supports/tools
- Braille (tactile/refreshable)
- Signing supports (ASL)
- Assistive technology



# #12. All New Mexicans parents can access PARCC student sample questions online.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `client/index.html#getitem/7426`. The page title is "Field Test | PARCC" and the browser tabs include "PARCC Field Test Resources Site" and "TestNav". The user is logged in as "Guest". The breadcrumb trail reads "HOME / T 1 / PART 1: GRADE 3-5 ELA SAMPLE ITEMS / 1 OF 11".

The main content area contains a reading passage titled "The Cricket and the Cougar" by Katherine Chandler. The passage is divided into four paragraphs, each starting with a circled number. A speech bubble points to the second paragraph, containing the text "sitting on the log that dares to te the beasts?".

**Part A**  
What is the meaning of the word **master** as it is used in paragraphs 5 and 6?

- A. understand
- B. conquer
- C. befriend
- D. frighten

**Part B**  
Which detail from the story best supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "Don't you know that I am king of the beasts?"
- B. "'Well, little boaster, you have that cousin here to-morrow...'"
- C. "Then he felt a stinging. 'Oh, oh!' he roared, 'get out of my ear!'"
- D. "The cricket sat on the log and looked on."

Access these items at: [www.PARCC.Pearson.com](http://www.PARCC.Pearson.com)

## #13. PARCC is committed to signaling college and career readiness.

- PARCC will signal if high school students are prepared to enter college without the need to take remedial courses
- New Mexico institutions of higher education are discussing the use and meaningfulness of PARCC scores
- PARCC will signal if students graduating from high school are ready for programs that lead to certification in a skilled career



# #14. NMPARCC high school scores will be used for multiple purposes.

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NMPARCC high school assessments will be used in a similar manner as NMSBA for purposes of:

- Graduation
- Accountability
- Educator effectiveness

# A New Mexican's Call to Action

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- Realize that a test score is a snapshot; there are other factors that determine your child's academic growth
- Encourage students to read more complex text outside of school
- When engaged in discussion, consider asking, "*Why do you believe that to be true?*"
- Visit the PARCC online items