

SENATE HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 247

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT TO PUBLISH THE RESULTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-APPROVED  
SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS FOR SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS; ESTABLISHING A DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION;  
REQUIRING REPORTING ON SPECIFIC STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA;  
REQUIRING USER-FRIENDLY PUBLICATION ACCESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 22-2C-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,  
Chapter 153, Section 13, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-2C-4. STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY  
SYSTEM--INDICATORS--REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS--ALTERNATIVE  
ASSESSMENTS--LIMITS ON ALTERNATIVES TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE READING  
ASSESSMENTS.--

A. The department shall establish a statewide

.231053.1

underscored material = new  
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1 assessment and accountability system that is aligned with the  
2 state academic content and performance standards.

3 B. The academic assessment program shall test  
4 student achievement as follows:

5 (1) for grades three through eight and for  
6 grade eleven, standards-based assessments in mathematics,  
7 reading and language arts;

8 (2) for grades three through eight, a  
9 standards-based writing assessment with the writing assessment  
10 scoring criteria applied to the extended response writing  
11 portions of the language arts standards-based assessments; and

12 (3) for one of grades three through five and  
13 six through eight and for grade eleven, standards-based  
14 assessments in science by the 2007-2008 school year.

15 C. The department shall involve appropriate  
16 licensed school employees in the development of the standards-  
17 based assessments.

18 D. Before August 5 of each year, the department  
19 shall provide student scores on all standards-based assessments  
20 taken during the prior school year and required in Subsection B  
21 of this section to students' respective school districts in  
22 order to make test score data available to assist school  
23 district staff with appropriate grade-level and other placement  
24 for the current school year.

25 E. Before September 1 of each year, the department

1 shall publish the results of the standards-based assessments  
 2 required in Subsection B of this section in an easily  
 3 accessible and user-friendly format through a website or web  
 4 page managed and regularly maintained by the department. At a  
 5 minimum, the results shall include:

6 (1) the proficiency rates for each tested  
 7 subject and grade reported by statewide, district and school  
 8 level performance; and

9 (2) the proficiency rates for each tested  
 10 subject and grade reported by statewide, district and school  
 11 level performance, disaggregated by student demographics,  
 12 including:

13 (a) race;

14 (b) ethnicity;

15 (c) socioeconomic status; and

16 (d) special education status.

17 ~~[E.]~~ F. All students shall participate in the  
 18 academic assessment program. The department shall adopt  
 19 standards for reasonable accommodations in standards-based  
 20 assessments for students with disabilities and limited English  
 21 proficiency, including when and how accommodations may be  
 22 applied. The legislative education study committee shall  
 23 review the standards prior to adoption by the department.

24 ~~[F.]~~ G. Students who have been determined to be  
 25 limited English proficient may be allowed to take the

1 standards-based assessment in their primary language. A  
2 student who has attended school for three consecutive years in  
3 the United States shall participate in the English language  
4 reading assessment unless granted a waiver by the department  
5 based on criteria established by the department. An English  
6 language reading assessment waiver may be granted only for a  
7 maximum of two additional years and only on a case-by-case  
8 basis."

9 **SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**--The effective date of the  
10 provisions of this act is July 1, 2025.

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