Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

What communication has been shared with LEAs to date?

- MSDE conducted a pilot to support the system implementation of EOC exams.

  - In March 2022, MSDE surveyed LEAs to provide information regarding their local grading programs in order to prepare technical support statewide to import EOC exam data.

  - In November 2022, MSDE sent an invitation to Superintendents inviting LEAs to participate in an EOC exam pilot for importing test results into grading programs. Nine districts joined the pilot, which enabled the development of a solution for each of the four locally used grading programs.

  - From December 2022 to June 2023, MSDE staff worked with LEA technical staff and assessment vendors to provide technical assistance and knowledge sharing across LEAs.

  - Once completed, MSDE shared the EOC grade import options and reporting solutions as part of the ongoing LAC and Assistant Superintendent meetings.

  - MSDE continues to offer ongoing on-demand technical assistance for local grading program planning.

- Memos and transmittals

  - State board transmittal regarding amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.03.02 Graduation Requirements for Public High Schools in Maryland and 13A.03.04 Test Administration and Data Reporting Policies and Procedures that were adopted by the State Board of Education (State Board) that were adopted on July 25, 2023

  - LEA Superintendents, Content Supervisors, and LAC received a special transmittal on the updated COMAR amendments and the End of Course (EOC) exam on August 18, 2023

  - LEA Superintendents, Content Supervisors, and LAC special transmittal on the Grade Conversion Score (GCS) for the EOC exam on October 19, 2023

- Manuals/Guidance

  - FAQs released in August 2023 and published to the Maryland Public Schools website in September 2023.

  - The State Testing Calendar for School Year 2023-2024 provides Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 testing dates. Fall 2023 testing window is from December 4, 2023 - January 19, 2024.

- Technical Assistance - Planned and Completed

  - Office Hours: August 21, 2023 (3 sessions)
  - Office Hours: October 30, 2023 (11am-12pm)
  - Office Hours: November 20, 2023 (11am-12pm)
  - Office Hours: December 18, 2023 (11am-12pm)
  - Office Hours: January 8, 2024 (11am-12pm)
  - Office Hours: January 31, 2024 (11am-12pm)
  - In-person session: August 26, 2023 - Baltimore Co.
  - TA for score reporting, including how to use the DI tool: December 2023 - March 2024
  - TA for Spring 2024 administration: April 2024 - June 2024
  - TA for Summer 2024 administration: July 2024 - August 2024

Have score conversion tables been shared with LEAs? If not, when will they be shared?

- Score conversion ranges sent to LEA Superintendents, Content Supervisors, and LACs on October 19, 2023.

- Full lookup table to be sent to LEAs in November 2023 (planned date 11/6).

How have MSDE staff transitions affected implementation, if at all?

- Not affected

What is the actual plan (how many staff hours expected? Where are these staff coming from? Are they trained already? In what ways are we ensuring inter-rater reliability?) for scoring the EOC assessments within the timeline promised?

- Prior to SY 2023-2024, MSDE received the assessment result files from the vendor 14 days after the close of the test administration window. Beginning in SY 2023-2024, MSDE will have the vendor conduct on-demand human rolling scoring to return student results 9 business days after student tests are submitted.

- MSDE will have the vendor convert the scale score to a letter grade and associated percentage using the Grade Conversion Score (GCS).

- MSDE currently provides result files to LEAs that contain both scale scores and sub scores. Beginning in SY 2023-2024, the result files will also include a numerical grade conversion score and an associated letter grade.

- Districts will embed the GCS as 20% of a student's final course grade in their local grading programs.

- As in previous years, LEAs will send MSDE a final course grade now with the 20% included as part of a student's final course grade.

- Training dates

    - Training with Local Accountability Coordinators (LACs), Nonpublic Schools, and LEA Technology Coordinators took place September 27-29, 2023.

    - Fall Block LAC Training, including LEA 24 will take place November 7-8, 2023.

What number of LEAs have opted for a late testing window, and how will that impact/pressure the promised fast scoring of the assessments?

- For the first question: There is only one test administration window for Fall 2023. LEAs have full discretion as to when students in their district are tested. There is no testing December 18, 2023 - January 1, 2024.

- For the second question: There is no pressure on scoring. The 9 business-day turnaround remains the same.

What enrollment trends have we seen in AP Gov't & Biology (or how do we get to this question?) to avoid the testing requirement?

- The Office of Research, Planning and Performance Evaluation is conducting analyses on the counts of students who took AP Gov't and Biology in prior years.

- Because Science is a federal accountability requirement, students enrolled in AP Biology are not exempt from taking the Science EOC, but the EOC score is not applied as 20% of the final grade.

- The Life Science MISA was first administered as an operational test in school year 2021-2022.

- While the American Government assessment was in place prior to school year 2022-2023, student performance used to be reported as pass/fail. Beginning in school year 2022-2023, student performance is being reported as four performance levels.

- Because the testing requirement is just going into effect, it is difficult to say the extent to which students have tried to avoid a testing requirement.