

# Student Assessment Inventory

## BACKGROUND

In January 2021, Ohio's Auditor of State issued its [Performance Audit](#) for the Ohio Department of Education. This performance audit recognizes that standardized student assessments are valuable tools for learning and measuring academic growth and achievement. It notes that districts use assessments for a variety of purposes, beyond simply meeting state and federal requirements. Tests inform schools about student progress and, when needed, indicate when they should provide additional student support. The results of assessment also help guide and strengthen future teaching through additional training and changes to curriculum. The audit, however, also acknowledges concerns—from the public, educators and parents--that there may be too much testing.

## INVENTORY TOOL

The assessment inventory is intended to help schools or districts take a comprehensive look at their student assessment systems—should they choose to use this optional tool.

Conducting an inventory of assessments currently in place can spur deeper discussion to

- build a shared understanding of the purpose of each assessment
- point out gaps or redundancies
- highlight which assessments provide actionable information and data
- streamline or strengthen the assessment program
- assist in planning a coherent assessment strategy

## TIME SPENT ON ASSESSMENTS

The assessment inventory tool can also be used by districts to check compliance with statutory requirements on the amount of time students spend on testing. With some exceptions, [Ohio Revised Code 3301.0729](#) requires that local boards of education ensure that students are not required to spend

- more than two percent of the school year taking the state-required assessments combined with locally determined assessments administered districtwide or
- more than one percent of the school year taking practice or diagnostic assessments used to prepare for the state-required assessments or locally determined assessments administered districtwide.

- [Appendix A](#) includes a sample student assessment inventory.
- [Appendix B](#) provides references and additional resources.

## Optional Inventory

This resource can be used by school and district administrators to consider assessments being used, reflect on why they are being used, and review what data is collected from their use.

This inventory tool can be one part of a thoughtful process to consider the effectiveness and efficiency of local assessment systems.

APPENDIX A. OPTIONAL ASSESSMENT INVENTORY TOOL

## Optional Student Assessment Inventory Tool

This inventory provides some suggested questions and data to gather. Add to these or modify them to suit the purposes intended by an assessment inventory in the school or district.

It is recommended that the school or district convene a team to work through the inventory process. The steps the process can take include 1) reflecting and planning, 2) conducting the inventory, 3) analyzing the inventory, 4) making recommendations for changes, if needed, and 5) evaluating the outcome of those changes, if any. Schools and districts can regularly reexamine their assessments considering such factors as local context and needs and changing statute and requirements.

General Information	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6	Assessment 7
Assessment name							
Grades or grade bands							
Subject(s) or course(s)							
Is this assessment required? If so, by whom?							
Which students are required or eligible to take the assessment?							

Alignment and Purpose	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6	Assessment 7
To what information is the assessment aligned (e.g., state standards, district learning objectives)?							
What type of assessment is this (e.g., formative, diagnostic, interim, summative)?							
For what purpose is the assessment intended (e.g., diagnostic, knowledge and skills, program identification, accountability: federal, state, or grant)?							
Describe any ways this assessment is used for a purpose other than for which it is intended.							

Results and Reporting	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6	Assessment 7
Who are the recipients/intended users of the assessment's results?							
Do the recipients/intended users of the results use the results for their intended purposes? If not, how are they used?							
Are the assessment results shared with anyone in addition to the intended recipients?							
Typical time between administration and results							

Assessment Administration	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6	Assessment 7
Test administration time (hours)							
Testing window (dates)							
Testing frequency (how often per year)							
Format of the assessment administered (e.g., online, paper)?							
Cost							

Accessibility and Accommodations	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6	Assessment 7
Are alternate assessments available for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities? If so, what are they?							
List any groups of students for which this assessment is currently inaccessible.							
List any accommodations or accessibility features needed to make the assessment accessible to groups for which this assessment is currently inaccessible.							

## APPENDIX B. REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

Achieve Assessment Inventory for School Districts

<https://www.achieve.org/assessmentinventory>

Center for Assessment, Standards & Accountability, Wested: Assessment Inventory Resource

<https://csaa.wested.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Assessment-Inventory-Resource-and-TAP-Handout.pdf>

Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education Assessment Inventory Facilitation Process

[http://1hlp161d4zqn27aufu3ikxut-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Assessment Inventory Facilitation Guide .pdf](http://1hlp161d4zqn27aufu3ikxut-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Assessment%20Inventory%20Facilitation%20Guide.pdf)

Illinois State Board of Education: Assessment Inventory

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Assessment-Inventory.aspx>

Kentucky Department of Education: Assessment Leadership Module Toolkit

[https://education.ky.gov/curriculum/standards/kyacadstand/Documents/KDE\\_Leadership\\_Modules\\_Toolkit.pdf](https://education.ky.gov/curriculum/standards/kyacadstand/Documents/KDE_Leadership_Modules_Toolkit.pdf)

Michigan Department of Education: District Assessment Inventory Toolkit

[https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_65803-362792--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_65803-362792--,00.html)

Nevada Department of Education: State Assessments

<https://doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Assessments/NevadaAssessmentsGuidance.pdf>

Ohio Department of Education and Battelle for Kids: Assessment Inventory

<https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Teaching/Educator-Evaluation-System/How-to-Design-and-Select-Quality-Assessments/HO3-Assessment-Inventory.pdf.aspx>

Links are current as of January 2022