



Science Assessment System Critical Fact Sheet 12/5/16

A Publication of the Office of Teaching and Learning

Overview/Background:

The new KDE Science Assessment System, based on the defined learning expectations included in [Kentucky's Academic Standards for Science](#), is comprised of three interrelated components: Classroom Embedded Assessments, Through-Course Tasks and the State Summative Assessment. These components of the system occur on different schedules, and all focus on the advancement of teaching and learning throughout the school year.

A deliberate effort has been made to build the system on a foundation of what happens in every classroom every day (i.e., 'classroom embedded assessments') and through course tasks for classroom use for every grade level, K-high school. This information helps teachers and schools to better understand and support student learning progress continuously over time and evolve teacher growth and effectiveness.

No single assessment can do all those things – but a coherent system aimed at producing needed information for such uses and users can.

Critical Points:

The 2016-17 school year will be a **FIELD TEST** year for the science assessment system components.

- Classroom embedded assessments should occur continuously, in every science classroom. These assessments are not part of accountability and will not be supplied nor collected by KDE.
- Through course tasks should occur at least once in every science classroom (in every grade/course) between November 2016 and March 2017, selecting from the bank of tasks and within the collaborative process described. A single student work sample from each grade level may be collected by KDE, but not for accountability purposes. DACs will receive additional information from the Office of Assessment and Accountability about the sample collection process at a later date. These assessments are produced by Kentucky teachers and made available by KDE through Sharepoint. They do not contribute to accountability.
- Statewide summative assessments will occur in grades 4 and 7 during the week of March 13-17. For grade 11 districts will have flexibility to administer the field test any time after the materials are received until March 27.
- K-PREP and Alternate K-PREP Science are NOT in 2016-17 accountability.

Quick Links:

KDE Science Assessment webpage: <http://education.ky.gov/curriculum/conpro/science/Pages/Science-Assessment.aspx>

Kentucky Science Assessment System details:

http://education.ky.gov/curriculum/conpro/science/Documents/Next_Generation_Science_Assessment_System.pdf

Classroom Embedded Assessments: http://education.ky.gov/curriculum/conpro/science/Documents/Classroom_Embedded_Assessments.pdf

Through Course Tasks: http://education.ky.gov/curriculum/conpro/science/Documents/Through_Course_Tasks_Article.pdf

Point of Contact:

Sean Elkins (sean.elkins@education.ky.gov)