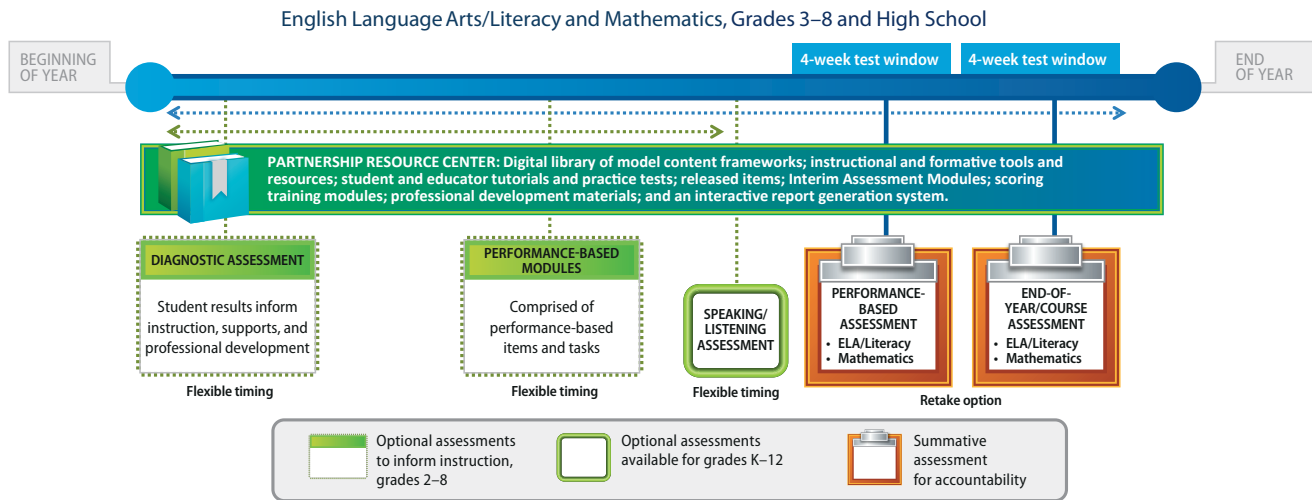


The Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)



Description of Major PARCC Features

Partnership Resource Center: This digital library contains resources to support teachers and students in grades K–12, including formative embedded tasks for students in grades K–12, released items and tasks, an online reporting system, and Professional Learning Modules. Many of these resources will be contributed by member states and launch in the summer of 2015. But some resources are available now at www.parcconline.org.

Optional Assessment Components:

Performance-Based Modules: Available in January 2015, these extended formative tasks for grades 3–11 will provide teachers and students with instructionally useful feedback and prepare them for the summative performance tasks. A wide administration window will allow for alignment with local curricula. Tasks will focus on hard-to-measure standards and application of skills.

Diagnostic Sub-Tests: Available for grades 2–8 in fall 2015, these computer-adaptive assessments will provide timely, detailed information concerning student strengths and weaknesses in foundational concepts and skills to support targeted instruction and professional development.

Speaking and Listening Assessment: (formerly required, now optional) Available in 2015–16 for grades K–12, rubrics will be provided for local scoring.

Summative Assessment: PARCC will provide summative assessments for grades 3–11 that have a Performance-Based Assessment and an End-of-Year Assessment, each of which will have a testing window of 20 school days. The typical testing time for ELA/literacy and mathematics, across 9 testing sessions, is expected to be 6.5–7.5 hours, although the scheduled time will be longer to allow for students who are approved for extended time.

Performance-Based Assessment: Students will complete three ELA/literacy tasks (one literary analysis task, one narrative task, one research simulation task) and two or more math tasks that involve complex, real-world problems.

End-of-Year Assessment: This assessment will be computer-based and consist of innovative, machine-scorable item types. High School: In mathematics, both traditional and integrated math sequences will be supported; in ELA, literacy skills in ELA, science and social studies will be assessed, as in the Common Core.

Accountability: Scores for the Performance-Based Assessment and End-of-Year Assessment will be combined for the student’s annual accountability score. Subject to state decisions, PARCC will make available one retake for students in grades 3–8 and up to three retakes for high school students.

Implementation: Field testing completed in 2013–2014; Summative and Performance-Based Modules operational in 2014–15. Diagnostic, Speaking, and Listening, as well as K–1 Formative Assessments will be ready in 2015–16.

Cost: \$24 per student, per year for computer-based version of the summative assessments, delivered and scored, in ELA/literacy and mathematics, plus a small per-pupil fee for project management and \$33 per student for the paper version. Price of optional components has not yet been announced.