



January 21, 2021

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessments

Spring 2021 Administration Availability for Remote Learners

The following are answers to frequently asked questions regarding assessing students whose families have chosen all remote instruction. If there are any additional questions, please contact Jennifer Denne, Alternate Assessment Consultant, at jennifer.denne@iowa.gov

DLM Spring 2021 Participation Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Is it possible to extend the testing window to allow for more flexibility in scheduling, implementation of safety protocols, and communication with parents?**

The DLM Spring 2021 Testing Window has been extended. The new window is **February 1 – May 28, 2021**. Phase 1 is February 1 – March 26, and Phase 2 is March 29 – May 28. The original window was February 1 - May 21, 2021.

- 2. Do students whose families have chosen all remote instruction have to take the assessment?**

All students in grades 3-11 must take content assessments including those whose families have chosen remote instruction. [Senate File 2310](#) mandates annual testing in ELA and math for grade 3-11 and science for grades 5, 8, and 10, including students that participate in the alternate assessments. Eliminating the opportunity for testing may be considered disparate treatment from in-person learners who have the opportunity to show what they have learned.

- 3. What assessment options are available for families who have chosen all remote instruction?**

Students receiving remote instruction should be strongly encouraged by the district to come in to complete the assessment in an in-person proctored mutually agreed upon setting. It would be important to advise students and parents of the safety protocols put in place in the testing environment.

- 4. What should communication with parents include?**

Parents should be given all necessary information to make a fully informed decision, including the benefits and consequences of completing/not completing testing. In-person testing provides a reliable and valid means to measure students' academic progress.

- 5. If fully-informed parents do not bring students in for testing, what code should be used to document the non-participation?**

DLM Code – Entered by district level staff

- 6. What accountability implications to the district are there for non-participation of remote instruction students?**

This is yet to be determined. Discussions are ongoing.