

# CRITICAL THINKING FOR THE REAL WORLD

NEW QUESTIONS TEST THE PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS THAT COLLEGES AND EMPLOYERS DEMAND. THESE QUESTIONS ASK STUDENTS TO

PROVIDE SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

CONSTRUCT A RESPONSE

ANALYZE AND SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION

CONDUCT RESEARCH SIMULATIONS

PERFORM MULTIPLE COMPUTATIONS

## KEEPS STUDENTS ON TRACK

Powerful PARCC reports will help teachers and parents identify a student's strengths and weaknesses and define whether that student is on track to meet learning goals or if more instruction is needed.

## MEASURES COLLEGE READINESS

Over 800 colleges and universities, including NJ institutions of higher education, have helped create the test.

## PREPARES KIDS FOR THE SAT/ACT

Unlike previous state tests, PARCC is aligned to the same standards as SAT and ACT.

## CAN HELP STUDENTS BYPASS REMEDIAL EDUCATION

Many colleges around the country plan to use PARCC scores to determine if students can bypass remedial classes.

# HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

➤ Talk with your child's teacher to determine which skills to reinforce at home.

➤ Access practice tests and sample questions at [PARCCOnline.org](http://PARCCOnline.org).

➤ Visit [NJSBA.org](http://NJSBA.org), [NJPTA.org](http://NJPTA.org) and your school or district's website for additional resources.

# PARCC

# STATEWIDE

# ASSESSMENT:

# GIVING TEACHERS, PARENTS & SCHOOLS GREATER INSIGHT INTO STUDENT PROGRESS

## SUPPORTING NJ STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES



# A TEST FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

In spring of 2015, New Jersey will begin using a computer-based test called PARCC. This test replaces NJASK in grades 3-8 and HSPA in high school.

PARCC was researched, developed and field tested over several years in order to better measure students' mastery of the state's grade-by-grade learning standards in Math and English Language Arts.



## DEEP AND COMPREHENSIVE

Unlike previous assessments, PARCC will assess student learning on all of the state's Math and ELA standards. This deeper information about what students are learning will improve teachers' and schools' ability to customize curriculum and instructional strategies for their students.



## ONLINE AND INTERACTIVE

The test includes new question types and is less reliant on multiple-choice answers.



## FLEXIBILITY FOR SCHOOLS

Shorter testing periods across multiple days mean that schools don't have to shut down for testing. Teachers and students who are not testing can be in class.



## MEASURES REAL LEARNING

PARCC is designed to measure what students truly know and are able to do in each grade level.

# A RICH SOURCE OF INFORMATION

PARCC score reports will visualize data and empower educators, schools and parents to make important decisions for students.

## SCHOOLS CAN

- ↗ Identify gaps in school curriculum
- ↗ Improve planning and staff development
- ↗ Determine which students need more help or enrichment

## PARENTS CAN

- ↗ Understand where their child excels or needs attention
- ↗ Gauge their child's performance against students across N.J. and the U.S.

# ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

PARCC interactivity allows for enhanced accessibility while retaining all the same accommodations as previous assessments.

## ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

### ↗ DIRECTIONS

Can be read aloud and repeated if needed.

### ↗ SCREENS

Can be enlarged for better visibility of words and images.

**ALL STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO USE SPELL-CHECK, A POP-UP GLOSSARY, AND WORD-PROCESSING TOOLS LIKE COPY AND PASTE.**

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### ↗ ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Accommodations are available for students at various levels of language proficiency, depending on eligibility.

### ↗ INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS

Accommodations are available for students with IEPs, including those who need to take the test with a pencil and paper.

# 9 SAVE THE DATE!

## MARCH

Testing window begins in early March for PARCC Part 1: The performance-based open-ended response assessment.

**Check with your school for specific testing days and times by grade level.**

## APRIL

Testing window begins in late April for PARCC Part 2: The end-of-year assessment.