



AIMS and AIMS A Science Update for the 2020 – 2021 School Year

August 24, 2020

Hello Achievement and Alternate Assessment District Test Coordinators,

As you may know, ADE has been waiting on an approval from the U.S. Department of Education to administer the census field test in lieu of our AIMS and AIMS A Science assessments for spring 2021. ADE was pleased to receive an approval notification of this request which reduces the number of tests administered for Science this year.

This approval grants Arizona the authority to assess grades 5, 8, and 11 using the census field test in lieu of the AIMS and AIMS A Science. Our State Board of Education approved the decision to move forward with this authority and not administer AIMS or AIMS A Science Assessments for the 2020-2021 school year. For Science, we will only be administering census field tests (AzSCI and MSAA Science Alternate Assessment) in grades 5, 8, and 11 in the spring of 2021. Finally, this decision will enable LEAs to focus on teaching the new 2018 Science Standards.

The Assessment team is working collaboratively with K-12 Standards and Accountability to develop a communication plan. As more of these details are decided, we will be in communication with you.

Thank you!

Highlights of Recent State Board Action - August 21, 2020