



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF STRATEGY, INNOVATION AND PERFORMANCE

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

April 3, 2020

TO: Complex Area Superintendents  
Principals  
Vice Principals  
School Test Coordinators

FROM: Rodney Luke, Assistant Superintendent *R. Luke*  
Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance

Alisa Bender, Interim Assistant Superintendent *Alisa Bender*  
Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design

SUBJECT: **Assessment Updates**

Given the unprecedented COVID-19 situation, health and safety is the primary focus. The Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance (OSIP) and the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design (OCID) have been monitoring national and local developments as new information becomes available, and seeking guidance from the United States Department of Education (ED) regarding assessments. The following assessment update is provided based on the latest information to respond to questions that may arise in your schools, thus further changes may occur depending on circumstances.

**Smarter Balanced Assessments – English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics;**  
**Hawaii State Science Assessments (NGSS) Grade 5 and 8; Biology I End-of-Course**  
**Exam; Hawaii State Alternate Assessments; Kaiapuni Assessment of Educational**  
**Outcomes (KĀ‘EO)**

Given this extraordinary crisis situation, Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) was given permission to implement an expedited waiver request that was submitted to the ED for flexibility regarding assessments, accountability and school identification, and reporting requirements pursuant to section 8401(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965, as amended. The Hawaii Board of Education discussed this at the April 2, 2020 virtual meeting, where members unanimously confirmed proceeding with the waiver. The opportunity for public comment at <https://bit.ly/WaiverPublicComment> will remain open until April 10, 2020.

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Thus, federally mandated tests above will be canceled for the remainder of school year 2019-2020.

For additional information, please contact Brian Reiter at [brian.reiter@k12.hi.us](mailto:brian.reiter@k12.hi.us).

### **The ACT**

The March 24, 2020 make-up testing day was canceled due to the extended HIDOE spring break for students. Schools are to return to ACT any unused ACT materials upon reporting physically back to school. The Assessment Section has been working with ACT to determine options to address the canceled makeup date. Information will be shared via the Assessment News at [alohasap.org](http://alohasap.org) as well as through emails to complex area superintendents, principals, and administrators.

For additional information, please contact Bruce Hirotsu at [bruce.hirotsu@k12.hi.us](mailto:bruce.hirotsu@k12.hi.us).

### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

The AP Exam administration will consist of a 45-minute, extended response exam held online at home. The AP Program is working to give every AP student the opportunity to claim the credit they've earned. The exact dates for each course will be announced in early April.

Given the current COVID-19 situation and impact across states, the College Board is developing tools for students in the AP program. All AP students and teachers will be able to draw on the free online resources that were provided to every AP classroom this fall. Additional resources will be made easily accessible to AP students and teachers through mobile phones and other devices. These include free online lessons and review sessions from some of the top AP teachers in the country. Go to:  
<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates#free-ap-classes>

NOTE: On Friday, April 3, 2020, College Board will be making additional announcements about the May 2020 exams.

For updates and more detailed information go to: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>.

For additional information about the Advanced Placement, please contact Anna Viggiano, Ph.D. at [anna.viggiano@k12.hi.us](mailto:anna.viggiano@k12.hi.us) or (808) 305-9771.

### **International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme**

The IB Programme has canceled all exams for the May 2020 session. Students and parents should contact the current IB schools, Campbell and Kaiser High Schools, for the latest information regarding IB diploma and certificates.

### **Class of 2020 Seal of Biliteracy Assessments**

*For the HIDOE-approved online assessments (Avant STAMP 4S and WorldSpeak):*

- The last day of the testing window will be extended from March 31, 2020, to May 29, 2020, for:
  - a) Class of 2020 candidates who did not complete their first assessment attempt by end of the school day on March 13, 2020, and
  - b) Class of 2020 candidates who were scheduled to retake their language assessments between March 23 and March 31, 2020.

*For the HIDOE-approved 'Ōlelo Hawai'i assessment:*

- Schools with Class of 2020 candidates scheduled to take the assessment on March 23, March 30, and March 31, 2020: please contact Ms. Emily Lam, Educational Specialist for World Languages, at [emily.lam@k12.hi.us](mailto:emily.lam@k12.hi.us), to reschedule the assessment.

*For the AP and IB assessments:*

- Please refer to the AP and IB guidance with regard to the testing schedules.

*Updates for Class of 2020 Seal of Biliteracy Awards*

- By May 8, 2020, the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design (OCID) will communicate with schools to verify candidates' eligibility to receive the Seal of Biliteracy. Eligibility requirements include GPAs and world language proficiency. Upon verification, OCID will provide schools with Seal of Biliteracy medals to present to candidates who are on track to meeting all eligibility requirements. If a candidate's language assessment result is not available at the time of verification in May, OCID will verify their eligibility requirement at a later time. Should the candidate meet all eligibility requirements, the medal will be mailed out with the Seal of Biliteracy certificate.

If there are additional changes with school closures due to the current COVID-19 situation, OCID will communicate with schools about the next steps for Seal of Biliteracy. For additional information about the Seal of Biliteracy Assessments, please contact Emily Lam at [emily.lam@k12.hi.us](mailto:emily.lam@k12.hi.us) or (808) 305-9722.

RL:tu  
Attachments

c: Assessment and Accountability Branch  
Curriculum Innovation Branch