



March 2016

COUNTDOWN TO PARCC FOR FAMILIES

2016 SPRING TEST ADMINISTRATION

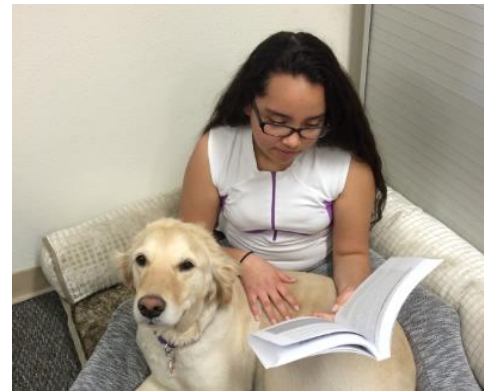
Each spring New Mexico students take assessments to identify their strengths and weaknesses in English language arts (ELA) and math. In some grades, students also take a science assessment.

In kindergarten through 3rd grade, students take *DIBELS Next* in ELA. For students in grades 3 through 11, ELA and math are tested using *PARCC* while science is assessed using the *Standards Based Assessment (SBA)* in grades 4, 7, and 11. Students who are English language learners (ELLs) take the *ACCESS for ELLs* test to check on their progress learning English. At the end of the semester, students may take final exams. Some of these may be content-specific *End of Course (EoC)* exams.

Before these assessments, students may take practice tests.

Practice tests:

- Allow students to answer released test questions, which teachers may review during class.
- Let students grow accustomed to the online assessment experience.
- Give students the opportunity to practice using tools such as highlighters that are part of the online tests.



The state sets general test windows, shown in the table below. The windows are long so that schools can set their own testing schedules within those windows that work best for them and students.

| Test | Subject | Grades | State Testing Window |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|
| ACCESS for ELLs | English Acquisition | K–12 for ELLs | 1/11–3/4 |
| SBA | Science | 4, 7, 11 | 3/7–3/25 |
| PARCC | ELA and Math | 3–11 | 4/4–5/13 |
| DIBELS Next | ELA | K–3 | 4/25–5/13 |
| End of Course Exams | Various | 4–12 | 2 weeks during the last 3 weeks of spring semester |

Your child’s results from all assessments taken in spring 2016 will be provided to districts or charter schools in the summer. These results should be provided to teachers and families in early fall 2016 to help make decisions about instruction for each student.