

## **Information on PARCC Field Test, Practice Test and Non-Summative Components**

### **Background:**

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a group of 22 states, including Tennessee, that is working together to develop a common set of computer-based K–12 assessments in English language arts/Literacy and math linked to the new, more rigorous Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These assessments will be operational in the 2014-15 school year.

### **PARCC Field Test:**

PARCC has made significant progress towards preparing for the PARCC Field Test, which will be administered across PARCC states in spring 2014. The purpose of the PARCC Field Test is to examine the quality of items so that PARCC can build assessment forms for the 2014-15 school year, as well as to test out assessment administration procedures. During summer 2013, PARCC will select schools for the PARCC Field Test to comprise a representative sample of students across PARCC states. More information about TN involvement in the field test will be coming shortly.

After the schools' participation is finalized that fall, a sample of classrooms will be selected to participate from each school. The majority of students who participate in field testing will take about one-quarter of the PARCC test; none of the students who participate in field testing will take the full assessment. Click [here](#) for more information on the PARCC Field Test, and click [here](#) to view the Field Test Guidance Version 1.0 PDF.

### **PARCC Practice Test:**

PARCC will also release a free, online practice test in spring 2014, which will be available to all schools and districts. The PARCC Practice Test represents a critical step in supporting students' and schools' transitions to new assessment content. The PARCC Practice Test will include technology-enhanced items and will be delivered on the same technology platform that will be used for field testing, allowing students and educators in all PARCC states to become more familiar with the types of items that will appear on the PARCC assessments.

### **PARCC Non-Summative Components:**

PARCC has also recently released information about the non-summative components of the PARCC assessment system. These components are additional tools and resources for students, teachers and parents to support student mastery of the knowledge and skills found in the Common Core State Standards, which will be measured by the PARCC assessment. Click on each link below for more information about each component:

[Mid-Year Assessments](#) - The Mid-Year Assessments will provide students and educators the ability to work with constructed response and machine scorable items for formative purposes (students' scores will not be part of their summative PARCC score).

[K-1 Formative Assessment Tools and 2-8 Diagnostic Assessments](#) - The K-1 Formative Assessment Tools and the Diagnostic Assessments in grades 2-8 are being developed to provide teachers instructionally useful information about how well students have learned, or how prepared they are to learn, key content and skills in the Common Core State Standards (students' scores will not be part of their summative PARCC score).

[Speaking and Listening Assessments](#) –These assessments are being developed to measure the extent to which students demonstrate an understanding of complex information, ideas, and evidence presented orally, and the ability to present complex information, ideas, and evidence effectively in speech (while not a part of students’ summative PARCC score, these assessments are required in grades 3-11).

[Assessment Professional Development Modules](#) - The Assessment Professional Development (PD) Modules will be designed to support teachers, school leaders, and school site testing coordinators as they transition to the PARCC assessments. The five different PD Modules will initially be ready for teachers and school administrators in June 2014, with additional updates to follow.

**Additional Information:**

Please see the timeline below for information on the approximate time frame for the release of PARCC materials. Additional information and details will be shared as soon as it is available, and you can direct any questions or concerns to [TNCore.Questions@tn.gov](mailto:TNCore.Questions@tn.gov).

<b>Assessment Component</b>	<b>Timeline for Availability</b>	<b>Potential Administration Timeframe</b>
PD Modules	June 2014	Once modules are available they will be accessible on an educator-determined timeline
Mid-Year Assessments	2014-15 school year	50 percent of the way through the school year
K-1 Formative Assessment Tools	2015-16 school year	Curriculum-embedded – designed to fit within regular classroom experience
Grades 2-8 Diagnostic Assessments	2015-16 school year	Early in the school year to provide information to inform instruction and intervention
Speaking and Listening Assessments	2015-16 school year	TBD