

## Appendix H: Guidance for Special Testing Scenarios for AASCD

---

### Introduction

This appendix provides guidance on possible testing scenarios that district test coordinators may encounter with students who are taking the AASCD, such as the following:

- Students receiving services outside their home districts
- Students receiving scholarships
- Students who move districts
- Students enrolled in Internet-based schools
- Hospitalized students and medical waivers
- Educational service centers (ESCs)
- Information technology centers (ITCs)

This document covers issues specific to testing-related procedures that are independent of the rules for EMIS and accountability, which are not addressed here. Please contact your EMIS coordinator or the Office of Accountability at 1-877-644-6338 for guidance on where students should be reported and questions about accountability measures.

### A Note About IRNs

Each Ohio district and school obtains its own unique information retrieval number (IRN) from the Ohio Department of Education. For the majority of students, the Attending District IRN and Attending School IRN are sufficient and there is no need to populate the Home District IRN and Home School IRN. However, for students receiving services outside their home districts (their districts of residence), the Home District IRNs may need to be populated. Students who have an attending district and home district identified in their Pre-ID records appear on the participation reports in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) for both the attending districts and home districts.

Ohio uses district and school IRNs during testing for the purpose of identifying which entities will receive student scores and paper reports. The Department's [student preidentification layout](#) for Ohio's State Tests (OST) contains four IRN fields: (1) Attending District IRN, (2) Attending School IRN, (3) Home District IRN and (4) Home School IRN. For the AASCD, attending districts and home districts have access to student scores in the [Centralized Reporting System](#) (CRS) if this is identified in a student's Pre-ID record. **Attending districts receive paper reports.**

### Students Receiving Services Outside Their Home Districts

Typically, the IRNs associated with a student are from the student's home district or district of residence. The home district is the district where the student resides or where their permanent home is located. In some cases, students receive educational placements and services outside the home districts.

The entity providing services may be another school or district that has an IRN in the Ohio Educational Directory System (OEDS), or the entity may be a facility that does not have an IRN. The entities that provide services may be referred to as districts or schools of service, or attending districts or attending schools. In these situations, the district of service and the district of residence should conduct a shared effort to administer the AASCD. The home district and the attending district should coordinate which district is responsible for the following tasks:

- Preidentifying the student for both online and paper tests
- Ordering materials for paper testers
- Downloading the Secure Browser or SecureTestBrowser app on devices for online testers
- Administering the test either online or on paper
- Returning test materials for paper testers
- Shredding test materials (for example, scrap paper) for both online and paper tests

<b>District of Residence or Home District</b>	The city (municipal), local or exempted village school district in which the parent(s) is a resident, if residing in-state
<b>District of Service or Attending District</b>	The district providing instruction to a student who is not a resident of the district
<b>Service Provider</b>	An entity without an IRN that is providing instruction to a student outside of the student's home district

If your district has students who are placed outside the district of residence by a third party, such as a court placement to a juvenile detention center or foster care, please confer with your EMIS coordinator. In these specific situations, the district of residence may no longer be responsible for the education and, therefore, testing of the student.

***Students Receiving Services Outside the Home District at a School with a Recognized IRN***

The home district and the attending district should coordinate which district is responsible for administering the test. Although there is no prescribed method for handling these situations, guidance for two common scenarios is listed in the following table.

<b>Task</b>	<b>The home district administers the test.</b>	<b>The attending district administers the test.</b>
<b>Pre-ID</b>	The home district uploads the student's Pre-ID record and includes its district IRN and the student's home school IRN as the attending district and school IRNs.	The attending district uploads the student's Pre-ID record and includes its district IRN and the student's school IRN as the attending district and school IRNs. The attending district also includes the student's home district IRN in that field of the student's Pre-ID record.
<b>On-Time Order (for paper testers only)</b>	The home district orders the paper test materials in <a href="#">TIDE</a> for the applicable test administration(s). <b>NOTE:</b> It is permissible for a TE or TA in an attending district to administer the assessment using materials provided from another district. Do not assume that the service provider needs paper materials. Home districts and attending districts should collaborate to ensure that service providers do not receive more paper materials than needed to administer the assessment.	The attending district orders the paper test materials in <a href="#">TIDE</a> for the applicable test administration. <b>NOTE:</b> It is permissible for a TE or TA in an attending district to administer the assessment using materials provided from another district. Do not assume that the service provider needs paper materials. Home districts and attending districts should collaborate to ensure that service providers do not receive more paper materials than needed to administer the assessment.

Task	The home district administers the test.	The attending district administers the test.
<b>Test Administration</b>	For online testers, the home district creates the teacher (TE) or test administrator (TA) user account for the person administering the test. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> The TE or TA and student must be associated with the same school in TIDE. TE and TA user accounts can be associated with multiple schools.	For online testers, the attending district creates the teacher (TE) or test administrator (TA) user account for the person administering the test. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> The TE or TA and student must be associated with the same school in TIDE. TE and TA user accounts can be associated with multiple schools.
<b>Score Reporting*</b>	The student's scores are reported to the home district and school.	The student's scores are reported to both the attending district and school and the home district.

**\*Note: The Centralized Reporting System (CRS) and Ohio's Education Management Information System (EMIS) are not linked.** There is no automated process that transmits scores from the CRS to EMIS. It is the responsibility of each district to submit its students' scores into EMIS. Districts that receive student scores are responsible for sharing them with other districts that have authorized access to the scores when appropriate.

### ***Students Receiving Services Outside the Home District at an Entity that Does Not Have a TIDE Account***

Service providers that do not have a TIDE account may not preidentify students or order materials for paper testers. In these cases, the home district is solely responsible for the following tasks:

- Preidentifying the student for both online and paper tests
- Ordering materials for paper testers
- Downloading the Secure Browser or SecureTestBrowser app on devices for online testers
- Administering the test either online or on paper
- Returning test materials for paper testers
- Shredding test materials (for example, scrap paper and used reference sheets) for both online and paper tests

Guidance for the home district test coordinator is listed in the following table.

<b>Pre-ID</b>	The home district uploads the student's Pre-ID record and includes its district IRN (DIRN) and the student's school IRN (SIRN) as the attending DIRN and SIRN. <b>The home district must provide the service provider with the student's SSID, first and last name, and the list of test settings and tools and accommodations the student will need for testing.</b>  <b>Note:</b> To prevent delays in testing, the home district should provide its district test coordinator (DTC) or district administrator (DA) contact information to the service provider, so the service provider can receive assistance if any of the student's preidentifying information does not work to log the student in to the Student Interface.
<b>On-Time Order (for paper testers only)</b>	The home district orders the paper test materials in <a href="#">TIDE</a> for the applicable test administration(s). These materials must be provided to the service provider as soon as possible to prevent delays in testing the student.

<b>Test Administration</b>	<p>The service provider and the home district must coordinate which entity's personnel is administering the test.</p> <p>For paper testers, the home district provides testing materials to the service provider. <b>The service provider must return the materials to the home district.</b> The home district returns the materials per the procedures and published deadlines listed in the <a href="#">Spring 2024 AASCD Supplemental Instructions for Paper Testing</a> manual.</p> <p>For online testers and supplemental testers, the home district creates a user account for the person who administers the test. If the service provider administers the test, the Department recommends that the test administrator be given a test administrator (TA) user account. The test administrator and student must be associated with the same school in TIDE.</p>
----------------------------	---

**Students Receiving Scholarships**

Students receiving a state scholarship are required by state law to take all statewide tests, with the exception of students enrolled in the Autism Scholarship Program.

Chartered nonpublic schools must confirm their intent to participate in state tests with the Department no later than July 31 of each year. Chartered nonpublic schools that do not have a TIDE account should contact the Office of Assessment at 1-614-466-1317 to first confirm their intent to participate. All other approved providers that do not have a TIDE account should contact the Ohio Help Desk at 1-877-231-7809 or [OHHelpDesk@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:OHHelpDesk@cambiumassessment.com) to request an account, if needed. Chartered nonpublic schools and approved providers educating students who take state tests are required to do the following tasks:

- Preidentify the student for both online and paper tests
- Order materials for paper testers
- Download the Secure Browser or SecureTestBrowser app on devices for online testers
- Administer the test either online or paper
- Return test materials for paper testers
- Shred test materials (for example, scrap paper and used reference sheets) for both online and paper tests

Scholarship Program	Action Required by Districts, Schools or Service Providers
<b>EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program</b>	EdChoice Expansion Scholarship students must take all statewide tests. The school where the student is enrolled is responsible for administering these tests.
<b>EdChoice Scholarship Program</b>	EdChoice Scholarship students must take all statewide tests. The school where the student is enrolled is responsible for administering these tests.
<b>Cleveland Scholarship Program</b>	Cleveland Scholarship students must take all statewide tests. The school where the student is enrolled is responsible for administering these tests.
<b>Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program</b>	Jon Peterson Scholarship students must take all statewide tests. The school or approved provider where the student is enrolled is responsible for administering these tests.

Scholarship Program	Action Required by Districts, Schools or Service Providers
<b>Autism Scholarship Program</b>	Students in grades 3–8 are not required to take statewide tests. Scholarship students who attend chartered nonpublic schools are required to take all statewide tests required for graduation. The school or approved provider where the student is enrolled is responsible for administering these tests.

**Note:** Chartered nonpublic schools that have more than 65% of their enrollment participating in a scholarship program must administer the state tests to all their students. For additional information on how to assign an SSID to non-scholarship students, please refer to the Chartered nonpublic student identifiers for state tests [document](#).

### Students Who Move Between Districts

The following table explores different scenarios that could occur involving a student moving between districts and what actions each respective party should take.

Scenario	District A	District B
A student is preidentified in District A, but moves to District B. The student does not test in District A before moving to District B.	No action required	District B must preidentify the student and administer the test. District B receives the report for the student's scores.
A student is administered all applicable tests in District A, then moves to District B.	District A receives the student's scores. Districts are responsible for coordinating and reconciling the scores for EMIS.	District B may preidentify the student in TIDE. Upon doing so, the district may log into the Centralized Reporting System and use the student population selection feature to view the student's results. If District B does not preidentify the student, it must contact District A for the student's results. Districts are responsible for coordinating and reconciling the scores for EMIS.
A student who is identified as eligible for a test moves to District A from another state before the end of the test administration window.	The district should preidentify the student and administer the test.	N/A

### Students Enrolled in Internet-Based Schools

Students enrolled in Internet-based schools or e-schools are required to take all statewide tests. Therefore, e-schools are responsible for the following tasks:

- Preidentifying testers in TIDE
- Ordering materials for paper testers
- Downloading the Secure Browser or SecureTestBrowser app for online testers
- Administering the test either online or on paper
- Returning test materials for paper testers
- Shredding test materials (for example, scrap paper) for both online and paper tests

Ohio law requires Internet-based community schools to provide testing locations within 50 miles of the residence of each enrolled student [ORC §3314.25].

## **Hospitalized Students and Medical Waivers**

### ***When is a Medical Waiver Appropriate?***

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) recognizes that there are circumstances when it is not possible for the entire student body to participate in testing. For this reason, the USDOE allows states to exclude, for accountability purposes, students who "...cannot be assessed at any time during the testing window due to a significant medical emergency (for example, a student is hospitalized due to an accident)." For the purpose of calculating the participation rate, a student experiencing such a significant medical emergency is eligible for a participation waiver.

Since a significant medical emergency is not foreseeable, medical waivers are, by nature, requested and evaluated annually. The USDOE allows states to define those circumstances that represent a significant medical emergency. Ohio considers a significant medical emergency that occurs immediately preceding or during testing as a circumstance that interferes with a student participating in testing **and for which no alternate arrangements can be made to assess the student.**

It is important to differentiate between a "medical emergency" as described above and a "medical condition." A "medical condition" is a situation in which a student has an ongoing illness. For a student with an ongoing medical condition, a district is still obligated to educate and appropriately test the student, whether it be pursuant to an individualized education program (IEP) or a Section 504 Plan. The determination to place a student on an IEP or a Section 504 Plan due to illness or medical condition does not exempt the student from participating in statewide tests and such a student is subject to the same requirements to obtain a medical waiver as any other student.

Requests for medical waivers must be submitted to the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Accountability for review and approval. If you have questions and want to determine if the submission of a request for a medical waiver is appropriate, please contact Jackie Seward at 1-614-387-7570 or email [Jackie.Seward@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Jackie.Seward@education.ohio.gov). **Note:** *Unless you receive confirmation that your request for a medical waiver is approved, you should not report the student with a "Score not Reported" element of "M" (for medical emergency).*

## **Educational Service Centers**

Educational Service Centers (ESCs) with valid IRNs are permitted to preidentify students and order materials. Please refer to the previous sub-section [\*Students Receiving Services Outside the Home District at a School with a Recognized IRN\*](#) for further guidance. ESCs without IRNs that support districts in the administration of Ohio's State Tests should work with the home district. Please refer to the previous sub-section [\*Students Receiving Services Outside the Home District at an Entity that Does Not Have a TIDE Account\*](#).

## **Information Technology Centers**

Information Technology Centers (ITCs) have to access [TIDE](#) in order to upload Pre-ID files for the districts they serve. ITCs that need to update their user accounts, including updates to their district associations in TIDE, should contact the Ohio Help Desk at [OHHelpDesk@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:OHHelpDesk@cambiumassessment.com) or 1-877-231-7809.