



**1. Why is there a new state assessment? What happened to the SBAs?**

- A. There are new Alaska state standards that focus on preparing students for the workplace, technical schools, or college. The SBAs are not aligned with the new Alaska standards.
- B. Computer-based assessments allow for a more engaging and challenging testing experience.
- C. Computer-based assessments allow for more tools and accommodations for students.
- D. Computer skills are a part of English language arts, Math, and technology standards.

**2. Who has to take the AMP assessment? What other tests are changing?**

All students in grades 3-10 must take the AMP assessment. Students will no longer have to take the HSGQE or the Terra Nova. Eleventh graders will have the choice to take the SAT, ACT, or WorkKeys.

**3. What kind of items will be on the AMP assessment?**

AMP items will require deeper thinking and fewer bubbles to fill in. The computerized AMP will use engaging features such as drop-and-drag, plotting points on a graph, or highlighting text.

**4. How many items are on the AMP assessment?**

There will be between 70-75 items for the English language arts and math content test and between 50-55 items for the science content test.

**5. How long does the AMP assessment take?**

There is an estimated time of 2-3 hours for the math content test, 2-3 hours for the English language arts content test and 1.5-2.5 hours for the science content test.

**6. When will the AMP assessment take place?**

In spring 2016, the test window for the paper-based test is between Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. The test window for the computer-based test is between Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**7. How do I help my child prepare for taking a test on a computer?**

Practice tests for students to learn how to use the computer's tools and technology-enhanced items are now available. Technology practice tests can be taken at home.

**8. What kind of tools/accommodations will be available to students?**

- 1. Universal tools are available to all students. They include highlighters, on screen sticky notes, and graph paper.
- 2. Accessibility tools are available to all students with a documented need, but must be activated by teachers prior to test administration. Examples include auditory calming, audio text, and headphones.
- 3. Accommodations are available to students with disabilities and English language learners. Examples include braille, scribe, and isolated location.

**9. What resources are available to learn more?**

Resources for parents are available at <http://education.alaska.gov/akassessments/>. Contact your school or district for more information.