

# Washington's Assessment & Accountability Strategic Waiver Request 2020-21

March 17, 2021



Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**



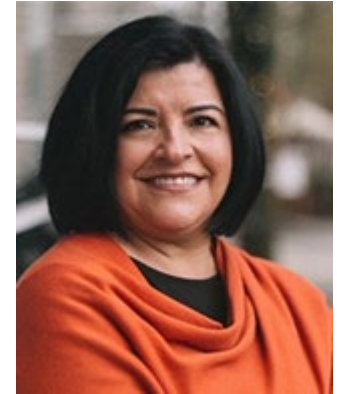
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# Washington's Assessment & Accountability Strategic Waiver Request 2020-21



Testing:  
Representative sample of students, in selected grades and content areas\*

Report statewide results by student group

Waive ESSA requirement to identify schools for support\*\*

\* No waiver for English Language Proficiency Assessment

\*\* Schools currently identified will maintain that status in 2021-22 school year

Note: Students with disabilities will be included within the representative sample in the selected grades

# Why, How, and When?

## Why

- Prioritize instructional time
- Able to report statewide results and student group information
- Emphasize district-based assessments
- Reduce impact of testing

## How

- Stratified two-stage sample design
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> ELA
  - 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Math
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Science
- Collaboration with University of Washington
- Shortened version of SBA

## When

- Public comment: 3/16 to 3/22
- Incorporate feedback
- Submit to US Dept of Education on 3/23
- Testing windows:
  - SBA: 4/5 - 6/11
  - WCAS: 4/12 - 6/11
  - WA-AIM: through 4/30



# Equity

COVID-19 had disproportionate impact on students with disabilities, English Learners, students experiencing homelessness, students experiencing poverty, students of color, and students facing opportunity gaps identified in the data

No remote assessments

Representative Sample-  
5 grades & content areas instead of 17

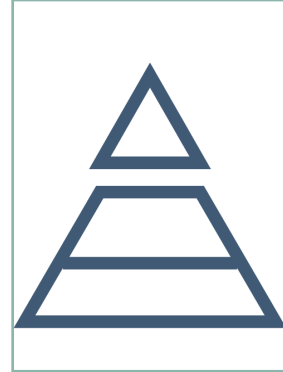
Contextualize data with Student Survey of  
access to resources, opportunity to learn, & self-efficacy/beliefs

Prioritize instructional time & emphasize district, school, and classroom-based assessments

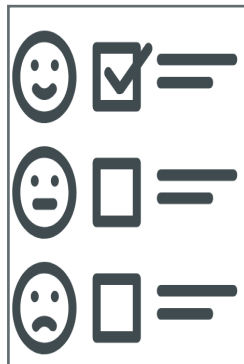
# Three Goals to the Approach



Reduce number of students assessed to provide targeted approach to advancing equity



Position statewide assessment in a framework that includes classroom, school, and district assessment systems



Increased time and resources to support student social, emotional, and academic development

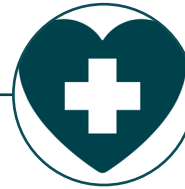
# Additional Information



Reopening Schools Report (March 1st)



Academic & Student Wellbeing Recovery Plan (June 1st)



OSPI COVID-19 Student Survey (grades 6-12)



Full administration of English Language Proficiency Assessments



Student absences, course, and credit completion



Weekly reopening status data by districts



# Reporting of Assessment Results



- ✓ Statewide reporting only
- ✓ Student groups will be reported in statewide results
- ✓ District and school results will not be reported
- ✓ Individual student results will be available for students who take the assessment



# What are we proposing?

- Representative sample of students for testing *and* fewer grades/subjects
- Shorter Smarter Balanced Assessments in ELA and math
- Waive accountability and some reporting requirements
- Report statewide results, by student group- won't report district or school results



# How?

Reduce the number of tests to five grade levels, with only one subject per grade level assessed

ELA (Smarter Balanced & WA-AIM)	Math (Smarter Balanced & WA-AIM)	Science (WCAS & WA-AIM)
Grade 3	Grade 5	Grade 8
Grade 7	Grade 10	

For each of these five grade levels: implement a *stratified, two-stage cluster sampling plan*, in place of assessing all students.

The sampling methodology has been developed in collaboration with University of Washington researchers.

# Sampling Approach

	ELA	Math	Science
3	X	X	
4	X	X	
5	X	X	X
6	X	X	
7	X	X	
8	X	X	X
9			
10	X	X	
11			X

- 5 selected grade/content areas instead of 17
- Overall around 4% of tests compared to a typical year
- Smarter Balanced assessment (ELA & Math) is approximately 2/3 the length of the typical administration
- Sample will be approximately 10,000 students per grade (12%)



# Sampling Plan Involves

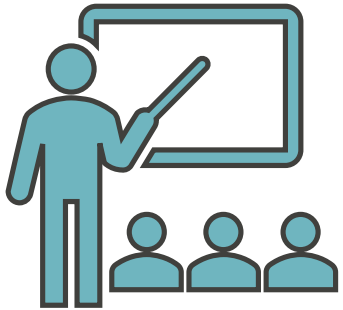
- Stratifying districts by their educational service district (ESD), then randomly sample 50% of districts in each ESD (stage 1)
- Of those districts selected, 25% of schools would then be randomly selected for participation (stage 2)
- All students in that grade level within selected schools would be assessed in person on the appropriate grade-specific subject test

# Students with Disabilities (under IDEA)



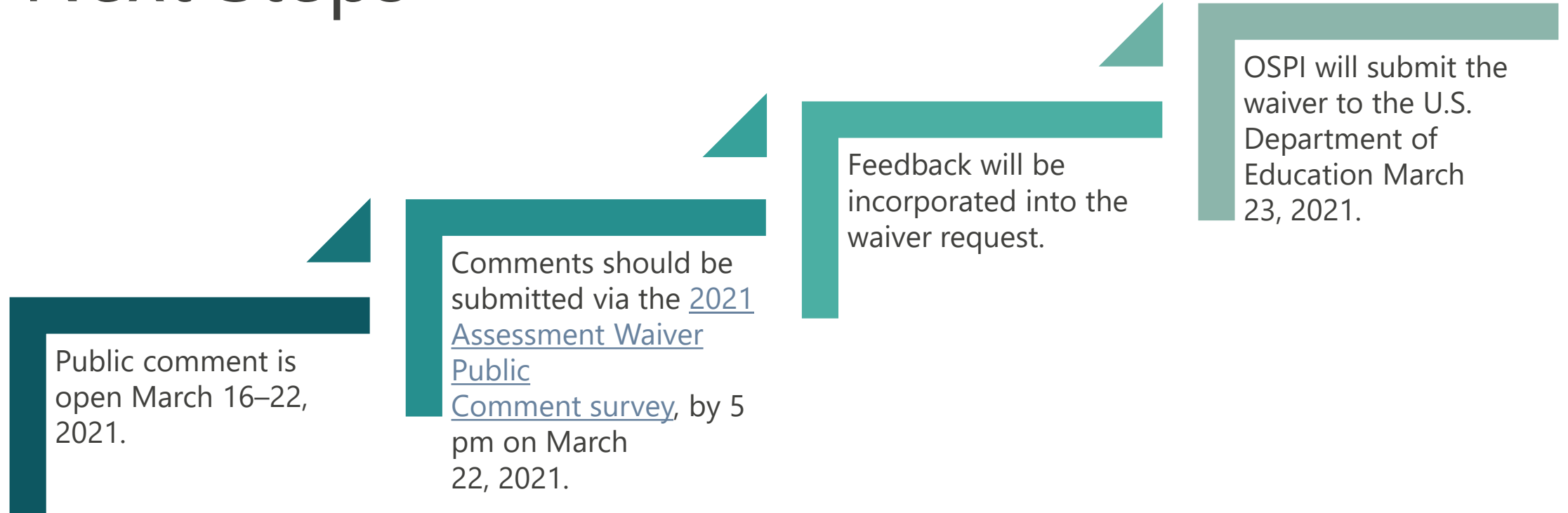
- Students with disabilities selected in the sampling plan will be administered the SBA, WCAS, or WA-AIM, as per their Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Results of the WA-AIM for those students identified in the sampling, should be used to guide IEP team discussions and decisions
- Students with disabilities who are also English Learners are included in the administration of English Proficiency Assessments, which will not be waived

# English Language Proficiency Assessment



- Districts will provide in person, in school building assessments for all state-identified Bilingual students
- Districts will communicate with families and guardians the provision of in person assessments for all state identified EL students and provisionally identified students- including those not currently receiving instruction in school buildings
- Districts must provide the right for families and guardians to opt out of the assessment if they deem it unsafe for their child

# Next Steps



[2021 Assessment Waiver Public Comment survey](#), by 5 pm on March 22, 2021

Send questions to [AssessmentWaiverComments@k12.wa.us](mailto:AssessmentWaiverComments@k12.wa.us)



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