High School Equivalency Assessment: Introduction to TASC

We will begin shortly. Please make sure that you have speakers or headphones plugged in and the volume is turned up so you can hear the webinar.

This webinar will be recorded for future use.

Thank you!
High School Equivalency Assessment

*Introduction to TASC*
Why Are We Here?

Driving forces for change in education

The need for increased rigor and educational standards

Assessments are responding to the need for change, increased rigor, and standards
Reasons for Change...

Jobs
- Impending national labor crisis - Education gap
- We need more education to qualify for the jobs of tomorrow

Post-Secondary
- Students who aren’t ready for the rigors of college are less likely to graduate
- 1 in 4 Indiana students entering college require remediation

Standards
- Increase rigor to better prepare students for college and jobs
- Emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and deeper understanding
The 2002 G.E.D. test has been the nation’s path to a high school equivalency for the last 11 years. In three months, this version of the current test will no longer exist.
And the 2014 Indiana High School Equivalency Assessment is.....
### About TASC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newly created content, aligned to the College and Career Readiness Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assesses Indiana high school equivalency completion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available in both Paper/Pencil and Online formats</td>
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<td>English and Spanish versions (with special large print, Braille and audio options available)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Works within current testing site environments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Also selected by New York as their HSEA</td>
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</table>
Why TASC is the right test for Indiana...

Rigor
TASC will gradually increase the depth and complexity of test items to align with the full rigor of the standards in three years.

Accessibility
For centers without the technological resources to switch to computer-based testing in January, TASC will allow a more gradual transition to computer based testing.

Affordability
$52 - Covers the full battery and two free re-tests.

*** Note: This price does not include any potential state administrative fees ***
# TASC Structure for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Testing Time (minutes)</th>
<th>Number of Items and Item Types</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts - Reading</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>50 Multiple Choice 7-8 Passages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts - Writing</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>50 Multiple Choice 1 Essay Prompt Based on 1-2 Passages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>40 Multiple Choice 12 Gridded Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>47 Multiple Choice 8 Stimuli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>47 Multiple Choice 8 Stimuli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Item Types – Multiple Choice

Item 3

Read this sentence from the passage.

On one of these sites, you might believe you are charging a pair of hiking boots, when you are actually providing some stranger with the information needed to book a flight to Acapulco on your credit card.

The author most likely included this sentence to

A show that security systems are ineffective

B dramatize how tricky some websites can be

C suggest that irresponsible websites are on the rise

D explain how easy it is to purchase something online
**Item Types – Gridded Response**

**Items 10**

Consider this function.

\[ f(x) = -2x + 7 \]

What is \( f(-3) \)?

Most mathematics items are multiple choice questions (40 of 52).

The other 12 questions are gridded response where the test taker would need to bubble in the correct answer. This all but eliminates the potential for guessing at the answer.
Item Types – Stimuli

Stimuli are texts, graphs, maps or pictures that provide the content for which several multiple choice questions may be asked.

There will be 8 different stimuli for the 47 questions in both the Social Studies and Science sections of TASC.
Where did the TASC Questions Come From?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Constructs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts - Reading</td>
<td>College and Career Readiness Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language Arts - Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>College and Career Readiness Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>CTB Social Studies Standards based on national frameworks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Next Generation Science Standards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Language Arts and Mathematics Standards

Common Core State Standards

College and Career Ready Standards
Social Studies and Science Standards

Next Generation Science Standards
• Covers K-12
• Multiple disciplines including Life, Physical, Earth and Space Sciences as well as Engineering, Technology and the Application of Sciences.
• Partners: The National Research Council, The National Science Teachers Association, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Achieve

CTB Social Studies Standards
• Covers K-12
• Based on national frameworks in the areas of US and World History, Civics and Government and Economics.
• Partners: National Center for History in the School, Center for Civic Education, Council for Economic Education, National Council for the Social Studies, and National Council for Geographic Education Studies
Webb’s Depth of Knowledge

*Increasing Rigor*

**Level 1:**
Recall

**Level 2:**
Skills/Concepts

**Level 3:**
Strategic Thinking

**Level 4:**
Extended Thinking
# Webb’s Depth of Knowledge

*Increasing Rigor*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level One Activities</th>
<th>Level Two Activities</th>
<th>Level Three Activities</th>
<th>Level Four Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recall elements and details of story structure, such as sequence of events, character, plot and setting. Conduct basic mathematical calculations. Label locations on a map. Represent in words or diagrams a scientific concept or relationship. Perform routine procedures like measuring length or using punctuation marks correctly. Describe the features of a place or people.</td>
<td>Identify and summarize the major events in a narrative. Use context cues to identify the meaning of unfamiliar words. Solve routine multiple-step problems. Describe the cause/effect of a particular event. Identify patterns in events or behavior. Formulate a routine problem given data and conditions. Organize, represent and interpret data.</td>
<td>Support ideas with details and examples. Use voice appropriate to the purpose and audience. Identify research questions and design investigations for a scientific problem. Develop a scientific model for a complex situation. Determine the author's purpose and describe how it affects the interpretation of a reading selection. Apply a concept in other contexts.</td>
<td>Conduct a project that requires specifying a problem, designing and conducting an experiment, analyzing its data, and reporting results/solutions. Apply mathematical model to illuminate a problem or situation. Analyze and synthesize information from multiple sources. Describe and illustrate how common themes are found across texts from different cultures. Design a mathematical model to inform and solve a practical or abstract situation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TASC Evolution

2014 – TASC Launches on January 2nd.

2015 – New item types will be introduced

2016 – Essay scored by artificial intelligence

Mostly DOK Levels 1-2

Mostly DOK Levels 2-3

Mostly DOK Level 3

Gradual movement to full rigor by 2016
TASC Roll-Out

3 Test Forms

- Three different versions (forms) of the test in both English and Spanish will be introduced each year. All test forms will be available in both paper/pencil and online formats.

Field Testing and Norming Process

- Graduating high school and Spanish speaking students are being tested along with “GED ready” adult examinees.
- Their results will help to provide a recommendation for TASC pass scores.

*TASC will be equally valid and reliable across forms and formats.*
Computer-Based Testing

Benefits

• Quick and easy scores and results
• Reduced test taking time
• Prepares testers for the skills required in college and the workplace
• Skills are transferable to other parts of students’ lives
Confidence with Computer-Based Testing

TASC already has a substantial technological infrastructure that includes the secure online platform used for TABE Online.

Current bandwidth is rated to support over 200,000 simultaneously testing students.

TASC test data is stored with McGraw Hill, not the tester’s computer, so answers will not be lost.
More to come...

HSEA Webinars

- Friday, September 6 at 10-11:30am (est) – Reading/Language Arts
- Friday, September 13 at 10-11:30am (est) – Writing
- Friday, September 20 at 10-11:30am (est) – Mathematics
- Local in-person trainings with Regional Trainers to happen Fall of 2013

October 25, 2013—Shifts Happen

- Focus on the instructional shifts associated with the standards
- Will provide instruction on how the shifts are seen in assessment items, classroom activities, and instructional methods
Resources

- **TASC Website**

- **Next Generation Science Standards**

- **CCR Standards (OVAE)**

- **Webb’s DOK**
  - [http://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/M2Activity_2_Handout.pdf](http://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/M2Activity_2_Handout.pdf)
  - [http://vimeo.com/42788913](http://vimeo.com/42788913)

- **AmplifyAE**
  - [http://www.amplifyae.org/high-school-equivalency-assessment](http://www.amplifyae.org/high-school-equivalency-assessment)
    - Webinar recordings
Questions
Webinar Evaluation

Webinar / Distance Learning Survey Link

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3JJGJHB