

AzMERIT End-of-Course (EOC) Testing

Guidance for Spring 2015

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance regarding which courses include AzMERIT End-of-Course (EOC) testing and which students participate in AzMERIT EOC testing. Additionally, this document provides information about how enrollments in Student-Teacher-Course Connection (STC) will be used to register students for AzMERIT EOC testing.

Overview

The Arizona State Board of Education establishes the minimum course requirements for graduation. Those minimum requirements include the completion of four credits of high school level English and four credits of high school level mathematics. The State Board also establishes the testing requirements for state-wide achievement testing. Beginning in spring 2015, the state-wide achievement test for English language arts and mathematics is AzMERIT. AzMERIT includes grade level tests for students enrolled in Grades 3-8 and EOC tests for students enrolled in courses aligned to the first three English credits required for high school graduation and the first three mathematics credits required for high school graduation.

The three AzMERIT EOC tests for English language arts are ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11. The three AzMERIT EOC tests for mathematics are Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. For school year 2014-2015, AzMERIT EOC tests will be offered in spring 2015. For school year 2015-2016 and beyond, AzMERIT EOC tests will be offered in the fall, spring, and summer. Students are expected to test in the same semester (fall, spring, summer) that the one credit course is completed.

Courses That Include AzMERIT EOC Testing

All high school level English courses intended to provide students with their first three years of high school English credit shall include AzMERIT EOC testing. These courses are typically named Freshman English, Sophomore English, and Junior English or something similar, but other courses and other course names including advanced courses (for example, Honors, AP, IB) and non-traditional courses (for example Shakespeare, Mythology) may be used for these first three years of high school level English. All courses intended to provide students with their first three years of high school English credit, regardless of course name, shall include AzMERIT EOC testing.

The Freshman English course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC ELA 9 test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed. The Sophomore English course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC ELA 10 test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed. The



Junior English course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC ELA 11 test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed.

All high school level mathematics courses intended to provide students with their first three years of high school mathematics credit and all mathematics courses aligned to the first three years of the high school mathematics standards regardless of whether high school credit is actually earned shall include AzMERIT EOC testing. These courses are typically named Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or something similar, but other courses and course names including advanced courses (for example, Honors, IB) and non-traditional courses (for example, Integrated Math) may be used for these first three years of high school level mathematics. All courses intended to provide students with their first three years of high school mathematics credit and all courses aligned to the first three years of the high school mathematics standards, regardless of course name, shall include AzMERIT EOC testing.

Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards – Mathematics identifies the content that shall be covered in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II courses. The Algebra I course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC Algebra I test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed. The Geometry course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC Geometry test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed. The Algebra II course, or its equivalent, shall include the AzMERIT EOC Algebra II test in the same semester that the one credit course is completed. For a multi-year integrated course sequence, each of the EOC tests in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II shall be administered in the same semester that the content of corresponding course, as identified in the Standards, has been completed.

Courses That Do Not Include AzMERIT EOC Testing

High school courses aligned to content below the high school level English standards shall not include AzMERIT EOC tests. Such courses should not provide English credit which would count towards High School graduation requirements. High school courses aligned to content below the high school level mathematics standards shall not include AzMERIT EOC tests. Such courses should not provide mathematics credit which would count towards High School graduation requirements.

High school courses intended as the fourth or higher year of high school level English shall not include AzMERIT EOC tests. High school courses intended as the fourth or higher year of high school level mathematics and aligned to standards above those identified as Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II shall not include AzMERIT EOC tests.

Students Who Will Participate in AzMERIT EOC Testing

All students enrolled in courses that include AzMERIT EOC testing shall participate in AzMERIT EOC testing. The student's grade level, the student's current course grade, and whether the student will earn credit for the course are not relevant. So, for example,

- a middle school student enrolled in an Algebra I course that is aligned to high school level standards will participate in AzMERIT EOC Algebra I testing, and the appropriate grade level AzMERIT tests;
- a student enrolled in Sophomore English and currently earning a failing grade will participate in AzMERIT EOC ELA 10 testing;
- a student enrolled in Geometry on an audit basis will participate in AzMERIT EOC Geometry testing;
- a senior student who is retaking Junior English will participate in AzMERIT EOC ELA 11 testing.

Most students in Grades 9-11 will typically take two EOC tests each year – one ELA test and one math test. However, there is no requirement that they take two EOC tests per year. Students will participate in EOC testing based on their course enrollment.

Students Who Will Not Participate in AzMERIT EOC Testing

Students who are not enrolled in any courses that include AzMERIT EOC testing will not participate in AzMERIT EOC testing.

EOC Testing and English Language Learners

English Language Learners participate in EOC ELA testing when they are earning English credit for one hour of their SEI instruction. If none of the SEI instruction is providing English credit, then English Language Learners will not participate in EOC ELA testing.

EOC Testing and Students with Disabilities

Students with significant cognitive disabilities who qualify for participation in Alternate Achievement assessment based on Alternate Achievement Standards (AA-AA), AIMS A and NCSC, are exempt from participating in AzMERIT testing including EOC testing. All other students with disabilities may not be excused or exempted from AzMERIT testing including EOC testing and will participate in EOC testing based upon their course enrollment.

AzMERIT Testing Registration

All students participating in AzMERIT testing, both computer-based and paper-based, must be registered in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) before testing. The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) will upload registrations for AzMERIT EOC testing based on enrollments in STC. Specific courses in the State Catalog have been mapped to EOC testing. Schools should confirm that their STC course mappings are still correct based on EOC testing requirements and revise mappings as appropriate.

Courses mapped to ELA 9		Courses mapped to ELA 10		Courses mapped to ELA 11	
AZ01001	English/Language Arts I (9 th grade)	AZ01002	English/Language Arts II (10 th grade)	AZ01003	English/Language Arts III (11 th grade)
AZ01010	Advanced ELA (9 th grade)	AZ01011	Advanced ELA (10 th grade)	AZ01012	Advanced ELA (11 th grade)
AZ01013	Alternate ELA (9 th grade)	AZ01014	Alternate ELA (10 th grade)	AZ01015	Alternate ELA (11 th grade)
AZ01016	SEI English Language Arts (9 th grade)	AZ01017	SEI English Language Arts (10 th grade)	AZ01018	SEI English Language Arts (11 th grade)
Courses mapped to Algebra I		Courses mapped to Geometry		Courses mapped to Algebra II	
AZ02052	Algebra I	AZ02072	Geometry	AZ02056	Algebra II
AZ02054	Algebra I – Part 2	AZ02082	ACT Quality Core Mathematics	AZ02104	Math Analysis
AZ02081	ACT Quality Core Mathematics		Geometry	AZ02105	Trigonometry/Math Analysis
	Algebra I	AZ02063	Geometry EOC – Other	AZ02106	Trigonometry/Algebra
AZ02062	Algebra I EOC – Other			AZ02083	ACT Quality Core Mathematics
					Algebra II
				AZ02064	Algebra II EOC -Other

Students enrolled in these courses in STC will be included in ADE's registrations in TIDE. Students enrolled in other courses in STC or without enrollments in STC, but who should participate in EOC testing, will not be pre-registered in TIDE. Schools will be responsible for the registration of these students in TIDE. Schools will also be responsible for registering students in TIDE who enroll after ADE's final upload to TIDE. District Test Coordinators will receive training on how to upload student registrations to TIDE.

ADE will upload registrations to TIDE three times for Spring 2015.

- An Initial Student Registration File will be based on certified 100th day STC enrollments as of 1/15/2015. The students in this file will be visible in TIDE on 1/28/2015.
- An Intermediate Student Registration File will be based on certified 100th day STC enrollments as of 2/11/2015. The students in this file will be visible in TIDE on 2/17/2015.
- The Final Student Registration File will be based on certified 100th day STC enrollments as of 2/25/2015. The students in this file will be visible in TIDE on 3/2/2015.

The ADE Assessment Section is available at AZMERIT@azed.gov to help with EOC testing questions.

The ADE STC division is available at stconnection@azed.gov to help with STC related questions.