How to Administer Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the PARCC Online Platform

Presented by:
Mary O’Brian
Director of Assessment
Session Objectives

• Develop an understanding of how to use the PARCC accessibility features and accommodations on the online platform

• Discuss the timeline for updates to the TestNav platform in support of increasing accessibility for students taking the PARCC assessments
A New Vision for Accessibility

• Apply principles of **universal design** for accessible assessments during every stage of the development

• Minimize/eliminate features of the assessment that are irrelevant to what is being measured

• Leverage **technology** for the accessible delivery of assessment
A New Vision for Accessibility

• Build **accessibility** throughout the test itself without sacrificing assessment validity

• Use a combination of ‘accessible’-authoring and accessible technologies from the inception of items and tasks

• **Engage** state and national experts
PARCC Comprehensive Accessibility Policies

Features for All Students

Accessibility Features*
Identified in advance

Accommodations**
Administrative Considerations for All Students

School based teams may determine if any student requires any of the following test administration considerations, regardless of the student’s status as a student with a disability or English learner:

- Small group testing
- Frequent breaks
- Time of day
- Separate or alternate location/Specified area or seating
- Adaptive and specialized equipment, furniture, or lighting
## PARCC Accessibility Features for All Students

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<th>Computer Administration</th>
<th>Paper Administration</th>
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<td><strong>Auditory Aids</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Blank Paper</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Eliminate Answer Choices</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Flag Items for Review</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pop-Up Glossary</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Redirect Student to Test</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spell Checker</strong></td>
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Accessibility Features Identified in Advance

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<td>Answer Masking</td>
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<td>General Masking</td>
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</table>
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Timing & Scheduling

- Extended time
  - Students may have an extended time accommodation
  - The maximum extended time is completing a given unit (session) within the school day
Unique and Emergency Accommodations

• Unique
  – If a student with a disability or an English learner requires an accommodation not listed in the PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual, the school must request approval

• Emergency
  – If a student requires an emergency accommodation on the day of the PARCC test documentation must be completed
Transadaptation Policy

- PARCC will develop transadaptations of its mathematics assessments into Spanish.
- Additional transadaptation in languages other than English will be completed by states wanting to use these.
Assistive Technology

- Some students with disabilities (with IEPs or 504 plans) may need to bring assistive technology to equitably access the PARCC Test.

- For current guidance on assistive technology for the PARCC Test, please refer to the posted guidelines on PARCConline.org.
Practicing Now: The Key to Success is Opportunity

http://practice.parcc.testnav.com
Preparing Teachers and Students for Success

What Specific Professional Development Needs to Occur to Prepare…?

1. Students
2. Teachers
3. Administrators
4. Districts
5. State
Preparing Teachers and Students for Success

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**Under Revision:** Test Coordinator & Test Administrator Manuals

**In Development:** Assessment Professional Development Module on Accessibility
What’s Coming - Late Fall, 2014

2. PDF versions of the PARCC Practice Tests
3. Large print PDF versions of the PARCC Practice Tests
4. Braille version of the PARCC Practice Tests (BRF)
5. Tactile graphics for the PARCC Practice Tests
6. List of assistive technologies that have no known interference with TestNav
Additional Resources

- PARCC Field Test Tutorials – w/TestNav 8 accessibility features training (CLICK HERE)
- PARCC Practice Test, Sample Items, & Tutorials (CLICK HERE)
- PARCC Approved Accessibility Policy Manual & Implementation Guidance: PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual; Overview website page; Translation Policy Memo
- Field Test Training Module on “Accessibility Features and Accommodations with Computer-Based Testing” (CLICK HERE) – Coming soon
- Field Test Coordinator Manuals & Field Test Administrator Manuals for CBT and PBT (CLICK HERE)
Contact Us

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