

PSSA Testing DOs

PSSA Testing DON'Ts

TESTS	Do test <i>all</i> students in tested grades for the subjects, except those participating in PASA.	Do not forget to administer make-up tests.
TIME	Do extend the amount of time, if necessary, at the end of the testing section to allow students to finish the test. Do recognize that additional time does not mean unlimited time and must be recorded under accommodations on the answer sheet.	Do not break up any testing section with recess or lunch. Do not let students finish a section the next day.
ORDER OF TESTS	Do administer the test in the required sequence.	Do not change the required sequence of the test.
DICTIONARIES	Do allow word-to-word dictionaries for ELL students for any portion of the math and science tests <i>only</i> . Do note that this accommodation is allowed only for students enrolled in U.S. schools for less than 3 years.	Do not allow dictionaries (print, electronic or palm pilot) with definitions and illustrations for ANY students. Do not allow thesauri, spelling or grammar checkers. This applies for all student populations.
PAPER, TEMPLATES & HIGHLIGHTERS	Do allow students to use graph paper or scrap paper. Do allow students to use highlighters, place markers and templates. Do allow students to mark in the test booklet.	Do not forget to remind students to transfer their responses made on scrap paper or elsewhere, to the answer booklet.
READING ALOUD	Do be aware that directions may be read aloud for all assessments.	Do not read aloud any portion of the Reading or writing test (except writing <i>prompts</i> to individual students upon request).
USE OF CALCULATORS	Do allow use of calculators only for math items where it is permitted.	Do not allow use of calculators in the 3 rd grade, non-calculator math items, and the science test.
DISPLAY OF MATERIALS	Do display the following materials from the Pa. Dept. of Education: Formula Sheets General Rubrics and Scoring Guidelines and Writing Domain Scoring Guide	Do not display vocabulary words or definitions, word walls, problem solving tips, number lines, algebraic equations or other displays from various sources.
ACCOMMODATIONS & SECURITY	Do allow students to test in a separate room or small group setting. Do allow the use of a study carrel. This applies for all students.	Do not leave the testing materials unattended. Also, do not allow the students to share calculators or communicate during testing.
SECURING THE TEST	Do collect the tests at the end of each session and store in one secure location overnight till shipped back.	Do not leave tests in unsecured, unlocked storage areas or allow these to be stored overnight in teachers' rooms.