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**Mandated Testing Information**

During the 2016-2017 school year, the number of tests and frequency of testing windows for Oklahoma State Assessments will be significantly reduced. This is good news, following many years of state and federal requirements that led to excessive testing.

It is important to note, however, that the new “Every Student Succeeds Act” (ESSA) continues to require states administer “high-quality annual assessments.”  The federally required tests include a reading or language arts assessment annually in grades 3-8 and once in grades 9-12; and a mathematics assessment annually in grades 3-8 and once in grades 9-12.  The federal required tests also include a science assessment to be administered once in the grade spans of 3-5, once in 6-9 and once in 10-12.  The State of Oklahoma also requires students to complete an exam at the conclusion of the high school U. S. History course.

In an effort to remain compliant with the assessment requirements found in ESSA, but also to ensure Oklahoma’s students are receiving quality-time for instruction, the following state mandated tests will be administered in the spring:

* **Reading/English Language Arts annually in grades 3-8 and once in grade 10**
	+ Writing portions will be embedded in the spring Language Arts tests and there will be no separate writing test in February for grades 5 and 8 as there was in the past.
* **Mathematics annually in grades 3-8 and once in grade 10**
	+ The 10th grade math assessment will be a grade level test, not a course specific test.
* **Science once in 5, 8, and 10**
	+ Any high school student who already has a valid Biology score will be exempt from the 10th grade science test.
* **US History**
	+ The test will be administered upon completion of the course this year.
* **A College and Career Readiness Assessment (ACT) once in grade 11**

All other tests and testing windows will be omitted from the Oklahoma Assessment requirements.