



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

August 19, 2020

To: Associate Deputy Directors, Education Program Administrators, and School Leaders

From: Dr. Tamarah Pfeiffer, Chief Academic Officer *Tamarah Pfeiffer*

Re: Standards, Assessments and Accountability System for Bureau of Indian Education funded Schools for School Year 2020-2021

The Chief Academic Office is pleased to announce the first ever approved unified Standards and Assessments, in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) section 1111 (20 U.S.C. § 6311), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), for Bureau of Indian Education funded schools, beginning in School Year 2020-2021. The Standards and Assessments include English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Alternate and English Language Proficiency. The implementation of BIE's Standards, Assessments and Accountability System will be outlined and published in the BIE Agency Plan, once the Agency Plan, the equivalent of a State Plan, is approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

A summary of BIE's Standards and Assessments for SY 2020-2021 are listed below:

Subject	Standards	Assessment	Vendor
English Language Arts and Mathematics	Based on College and Career Readiness Standards	BIE ELA and Math Assessment	Pearson, Inc.
Alternate Language Arts and Mathematics and Science	Based on College and Career Readiness Standards	BIE Alternate Assessment	Unique Solutions Professional Services
Science	Next Generation Science Standards	BIE Science Assessment	Unique Solutions Professional Services
English Language Proficiency	English Language Development Standards	Access for ELs	World-Class Instructional Design Assessments (WIDA)

The BIE Agency Plan will focus on SY 2020-2021 and will be updated thereafter based on a review of the results of the first year of implementation and as needed. The BIE will carefully consider the Bureau-wide results of the English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Alternate

and English Language Proficiency to establish baseline data, reset short-term and long-term goals and possibly adjust the assignment of points to the overall Accountability System. Other accountability indicators (e.g., 5 year graduation cohort rate, Tribal Civics, and growth model) that were identified in the Final Rule will be incorporated in subsequent amendments to the BIE Agency Plan.

The following is a timeline of major events that led up to BIE’s Accountability Plan, defined in the upcoming Agency Plan:

Date	Event
March 2020	Final Rule (25 C.F.R § 30.100-126) Published
April 2020	Adoption of College and Career Readiness Standards for ELA and Math and Alternate ELA and Math, Next Generation Science Standards and English Language Development Standards
April 27-May 1, 2020	Tribal Consultation on the BIE Agency Plan
July 2020	Procurement of Assessments
To Be Determined	Approval of BIE’s Agency Plan

The Office of the Chief Academic Officer will provide more information, such as an assessment calendar with key dates and test windows, and a professional development schedule on various aspects of BIE’s new Standards, Assessments and Accountability in the upcoming weeks. To prepare for upcoming virtual test coordinator training for the new BIE Assessments, please send the contact information for school test coordinators including name, position, email and phone number, for each subject area, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Alternate and English Language Proficiency. Please send school test coordinator names and contacts to Ethelene Sandoval via email to Ethelene.Sandoval@bia.gov. School test coordinators need to be a certified staff member at the school site.

We look forward to receiving the requested information and to begin the implementation of BIE’s unified Standards, Assessments, and Accountability System during SY 2020-2021.