



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION




Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

June 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
State Superintendent of Education

RE: *Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP) Summative: Transition to the 2021 Course of Study: English Language Arts (ELA)*

In March 2021, the Alabama State Board of Education adopted the newly revised *Alabama Course of Study: English Language Arts (ELA)*. This revision departs from the previous Course of Study in that it provides a comprehensive foundation for K-3 literacy in accordance with the *Alabama Literacy Act*, requires more attention to foundational reading, and encourages the development of advanced reading through increasing levels of complexity in literary and informational texts. As such, it also requires a revision to the test design and test blueprints for the *ACAP Summative ELA* assessment.

Starting in spring 2022, the *ACAP Summative ELA* test will include field test items that are aligned to the 2021 Course of Study. Starting in spring 2023, the *ACAP Summative ELA* test will be fully aligned to the 2021 Course of Study. The changes to the assessment primarily include five key features:

1. Measures listening (headphones will be needed starting in spring 2022 for all grades).
2. Measures phonological awareness/phonemic awareness at Grades 2 and 3 (headphones needed).
(headphones needed).
3. Measures fluency at Grades 2 and 3 (headphones needed).
4. Measures phonics at Grades 2-5.
5. Measures text-dependent writing (TDW) at Grades 2 and 3 (starting in spring 2023) in addition to Grades 4-8.

Our commitment to providing resources for educators to use in preparing their students for the assessment continues, and those resources will be updated to support the changes to the *ACAP Summative ELA* test in the coming months.

If you have any questions about these changes or the transition, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Maggie Hicks, Coordinator of Student Assessment, at (334) 694-4817 or by email at mhicks@alsde.edu.

EGM/MH

cc: City and County System Test Coordinators
Dr. Daniel Boyd
Mrs. Angela Martin
Mrs. Shanthia Washington

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