

House Engrossed

statewide assessment; written form; requirements

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

# HOUSE BILL 2033

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-741, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-741, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 15-741. Assessment of pupils; definition

5 A. The state board of education shall:

6 1. Adopt rules for the purposes of this article pursuant to title  
7 41, chapter 6.

8 2. Adopt and implement a statewide assessment to measure pupil  
9 achievement of the state board-adopted academic standards in reading,  
10 writing and mathematics in at least four grades designated by the state  
11 board. **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION H OF THIS SECTION**, the state  
12 board shall determine the manner of implementation. The state board may  
13 administer assessments of the academic standards in social studies and  
14 science, except that a pupil shall not be required to meet or exceed the  
15 social studies or science standards measured by the statewide assessment.

16 3. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are uniform  
17 throughout this state.

18 4. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are able to be  
19 scored in an objective manner and are not intended to advocate any  
20 sectarian, partisan or denominational viewpoint.

21 5. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this article collect only  
22 types of pupil nontest data that are approved by the state board at a  
23 public meeting and published on the website of the state board pursuant to  
24 paragraph 7 of this subsection.

25 6. Include within its budget all costs pertaining to the tests  
26 prescribed in this article. If sufficient monies are appropriated, the  
27 state board may provide achievement test services to school districts that  
28 request assistance in testing pupils in grades additional to those  
29 required by this section.

30 7. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on  
31 achievement-related nontest indicators, including information on  
32 graduation rates by ethnicity and dropout rates by ethnicity for each  
33 grade level. Before the survey, the state board shall approve at a public  
34 meeting the nontest indicators on which data will be collected and shall  
35 post in a prominent position on the home page of the state board's website  
36 a link to the nontest indicators entitled "What nontest data does the  
37 state of Arizona collect about Arizona pupils?". The linked webpage shall  
38 state the types of data collected, the reasons for the collection of the  
39 data and the entities with which the data is shared. In conducting the  
40 survey and collecting data, the state board shall not violate the  
41 provisions of the family educational rights and privacy act (P.L. 93-380),  
42 as amended, or disclose personally identifiable information.

43 8. Establish a fair and consistent method and standard by which  
44 test scores from schools in a district may be evaluated taking into  
45 consideration demographic data. The state board shall establish

1 intervention strategies to assist schools with scores below the acceptable  
2 standard. The state board shall annually review district and school  
3 scores and shall offer assistance to school districts in analyzing data  
4 and implementing intervention strategies. The state board shall use the  
5 adopted test and methods of data evaluation for a period of at least ten  
6 years.

7 9. Participate in other assessments that provide national  
8 comparisons as needed.

9 10. Require in the contract for the statewide assessment pursuant  
10 to this section that test scores and assessment data from the third grade  
11 reading portion of the statewide assessment adopted pursuant to this  
12 section be received by local education agencies on or before May 15 of  
13 each academic year and that the scores and assessment data from all other  
14 portions of the statewide assessment adopted pursuant to this section be  
15 received by local education agencies on or before May 25 of each academic  
16 year. The state board shall impose penalties on the contractor for scores  
17 received after these dates. If the state board alters the statewide  
18 assessment testing window for any reason, the state board may adjust the  
19 dates by which local education agencies are required to receive the scores  
20 and assessment data proportionately. If the state board adjusts the dates  
21 by which local education agencies are required to receive the scores and  
22 assessment data, the state board may not impose penalties on the  
23 contractor unless the scores and assessment data are received after the  
24 adjusted dates.

25 B. The achievement tests adopted by the state board as provided in  
26 subsection A of this section shall be given at least annually. Nontest  
27 indicator data and other information shall be collected at the same time  
28 as the collection of achievement test data.

29 C. Local school district governing boards shall:

30 1. Administer the tests prescribed in subsection A of this section.

31 2. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on  
32 achievement-related nontest indicator data as required by the state board,  
33 including information related to district graduation and dropout rates.  
34 In conducting the survey and collecting data, the governing board shall  
35 not violate the provisions of the family educational rights and privacy  
36 act (P.L. 93-380), as amended, or disclose personally identifiable  
37 information.

38 D. Any additional assessments for high school pupils that are  
39 adopted by the state board after November 24, 2009 shall be designed to  
40 measure college and career readiness of pupils.

41 E. If a high school pupil who is enrolled in a school district or  
42 charter school participates in a nationally recognized assessment that is  
43 both adopted by the state board of education pursuant to subsection A of  
44 this section and administered by a person other than the school district  
45 or charter school, the pupil or pupil's parent or guardian may submit the

1 pupil's official score report for the assessment to the school district or  
2 charter school. On receipt of an official score report pursuant to this  
3 subsection, the school district or charter school shall do all of the  
4 following:

5       1. Record the score in the pupil's file.  
6       2. Report the score to the state board of education and the  
7 department of education.

8       3. If the pupil or pupil's parent or guardian submits an official  
9 score report pursuant to this subsection to the school district or charter  
10 school before the date on which the school administers the tests  
11 prescribed in subsection A of this section, allow the pupil to opt out of  
12 participation in the assessment that is administered by the school  
13 district or charter school. If a pupil opts out of an assessment pursuant  
14 to this paragraph, the school district or charter school shall use the  
15 data from the pupil's official score report for the pupil's achievement  
16 test data for the purposes of this section. This paragraph does not  
17 require a school district or charter school to allow a pupil to opt out of  
18 the collection of nontest indicator data or other information that is  
19 collected about pupils who participate in the assessment that is  
20 administered by the school district or charter school pursuant to this  
21 section.

22       F. A test for penmanship shall not be required pursuant to this  
23 article.

24       G. If a local education agency requests a raw data file of  
25 assessment data for the pupils tested at the local education agency, the  
26 department of education shall fulfill the request in a format that is  
27 usable for assessment diagnostics within thirty days after the request.  
28 The local education agency shall follow all applicable student data  
29 privacy laws and may not publicly disclose individual student achievement  
30 results.

31       H. A school district or charter school may administer the statewide  
32 assessment in the form of a written test ~~if~~ FOR any of the following  
33 ~~applies~~ REASONS:

34       1. A written test is required pursuant to an individualized  
35 education program or a section 504 plan as defined in section 15-731.

36       2. To accommodate special circumstances.

37       3. For religious purposes.

38       4. On request by a pupil's parent or guardian.

39       5. ON APPROVAL BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING  
40 BOARD OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY.

41       I. For the purposes of this section, "nationally recognized" has  
42 the same meaning prescribed in section 15-741.02.