

2024 Attribution Map

The purpose of this Attribution Map is to assist local education agencies (LEA) in accurately attributing student data to the correct school, LEA and/or agency for accountability reporting of the PSSA, PASA and Keystone Exams. Please note that with a few exceptions all students must test. Only students enrolled for a full academic year (FAY) will be accountable for Achievement. All eligible students, regardless of FAY status, are required to participate in the PSSA, PASA and Keystone Exams.

All Students – Full Academic Year

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
<p>PSSA and PASA: The student attends a <i>school in the district of residence</i> for a full academic year (FAY) (enrolled on or before Oct. 1, 2023 and remains continuously enrolled through the end of each content area's testing window (see 'Rationale' column for specific dates).</p>	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence	State	<p>Federal accountability designations and building-level scores are based, in part, on the results of the PSSA and PASA for all students enrolled for a full academic year (FAY). The beginning of FAY is Oct. 1, 2023, enrolled continuously through the end of the following testing windows:</p> <p>Assessment/Accountability Date: April 26, 2024 (ELA) and May 3, 2024 (Math and Science)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keystone Exam Grade 11: May 24, 2024 PASA: March 3, 2024 <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 1</p>
<p>Keystone Exams: An 11th grade student enrolled in a school within the student's district of residence for a FAY.</p>	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence	State	<p>For purposes of accountability, the student's best-score-to-date on the Keystone Exams at the end of their junior year is used.</p> <p>In Pennsylvania, for the Keystone Exams, FAY is defined as an 11th grade student who is continuously enrolled on or before Oct. 1 of the school year through the end of the Keystone Exams testing window, May 24, 2023.</p> <p>Note: Keystone Achievement and participation is only attributed to the school and district where the student is enrolled in grade 11 regardless of where and what grade the Keystone was taken.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 1</p>

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Charter and Cyber Charter School Students: Charter or cyber charter school student enrolled in a charter or a cyber charter school for a FAY who takes any state assessment .	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	State	Charter and cyber charter schools are public schools and, as such, are accountable for the enrolled student in the same manner as school districts. PDE Data Attribution Rule 5
Student placed in a course for the assessed subject operated by a district other than the district of residence	Educating district	Educating district	School of residence	District of residence	State	Because the student is placed by the District of residence, the School and District of Residence remain responsible for the student's education. PDE Data Attribution Rule 20

All Students – Not Full Academic Year

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
For any state assessment , the student was enrolled in the district of residence for a FAY but was not enrolled in any school in the district for a FAY.	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence		District of residence	State	Federal regulations require that all students must participate in the applicable PSSA, PASA and Keystone Exams, regardless of FAY status. Since the student is not FAY for the School but is FAY for the district, Achievement is attributed to the District and the State. PDE Data Attribution Rule 1
For any state assessment , the student is enrolled as a resident of the state for a FAY but is not enrolled in a district, school, charter school, or cyber charter school for a FAY.	Educating School within District of residence or charter school	District of residence or charter school			State	For federal accountability and building-level scores, the student must participate in the applicable PSSA, PASA and Keystone Exams regardless of FAY status. Since the student is not FAY for the school or district, Achievement is attributed only to the state. PDE Data Attribution Rule 1

Special Education/Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Students

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student with an individualized education plan (IEP), regardless of type of disability, who is enrolled in a district and receiving educational services from the district of residence but in a school in the district other than the student's school of residence.	Educating School within the District of residence	District of residence	Educating School within the District of residence	District of residence	State	The school providing educational services for the subject areas being tested is responsible for the education of the student. PDE Data Attribution Rule 19
Student with an individualized education plan (IEP) who is enrolled in a charter or cyber charter school and receiving educational services from the charter or cyber charter school (regardless of type of disability).	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	Educating charter or cyber charter school	State	The charter school is responsible for the education of the student receiving educational services from the charter school. PDE Data Attribution Rule 5
Student with an individualized education plan (IEP), who is placed on Instruction Conducted in the Home by the district of residence or charter/cyber charter school as an educational placement.	Educating school that the student would otherwise attend in the district of residence/charter or cyber charter school	Educating district of residence charter or cyber charter school		Educating district of residence charter or cyber charter school	State	Instruction Conducted in the Home is a special education placement by the LEA (Charter or District) where a teacher (could be school staff or contractor depending upon the situation) implements the student's IEP by providing instruction. Instruction conducted in the home is provided by the district/charter or cyber charter school thus, the district/charter or cyber charter school is responsible and accountable for the student's education. PDE Data Attribution Rule 1 or 5
Student with an individualized education plan (IEP), who is enrolled in a district and receiving the educational services from an entity other than the district of residence.	Educating school/program	District of residence ensures participation Educating school/program must order test materials		District of residence	State	The district's decision to place a student into a program operated by an entity other than the district of residence does not absolve the district of its responsibility to educate the student. An entity in this context may include an intermediate unit (IU), Approved Private School (APS), Licensed Private School or a district other than the district of residence. This situation does not include students who are in Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) programs. For more information related to AEDY programs, see page 6. PDE Data Attribution Rule 21
Student with an individualized education plan (IEP) who is enrolled in a charter or cyber charter school and receiving educational services from an entity other than the charter or cyber charter school.	Educating school/program	Educating charter or cyber charter school ensures participation. Educating school/program must order test materials		Charter or cyber charter school reported as a district	State	The charter school's decision to place a student into a program operated by an entity other than the charter school does not absolve the school of its responsibility to educate the student. An entity in this context may include an intermediate unit, another charter or cyber charter school, APS, or Licensed Private School. This situation does not include students who are in Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) programs. For more information related to AEDY programs, see page 6. PDE Data Attribution Rule 22

English Learners

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
English Learner (EL) student in the first year of enrollment in a U.S. school for the state assessment in English Language Arts/Literature .	EL student in the first year does not have to participate in the ELA assessment.					<p>In their first year of enrollment in a US school, an EL student is exempt from the English Language Arts (ELA)/Literature assessments. Participation in the ELA PSSA/PASA and Literature Keystone Exam/PASA is voluntary. If the student participates voluntarily, participation is attributed to the school, district, and state. Achievement is not counted.</p> <p>Please note foreign exchange students may be eligible for EL services and exempt from state testing in PSSA/PASA ELA and Keystone Literature as a first year EL student. (See Foreign Exchange section on page 9)</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 17</p>
English Learner (EL) student in the first year of enrollment in a U.S. school for state assessments in math/Algebra 1 and science/Biology .	Educating School within District of residence or charter school	District of residence or charter school	Educating School within District of residence or Charter School	District of residence or charter school	State	<p>The EL student in the first year must participate in the math/Algebra I and science/Biology for the PSSA and PASA assessments only. Achievement is not counted.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 18</p>
EL student is placed into an EL program within one building/site within the district of residence and receives only EL services in that building/site .	Educating school where the assessed subjects are taught	District of residence	Educating School where the assessed subjects are taught.	District of residence	State	<p>The school where the assessed subjects are taught is accountable for the student's results.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 19</p>
EL student is placed into a school in their district of residence that is not their school of residence to participate in an EL program and the student receives all their educational services in that school.	Educating school where the assessed subjects are taught	District of residence	Educating School within District of residence	District of residence or charter school	State	<p>The student is receiving instruction in all assessed subjects in the educating school.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 19</p>
EL student is placed into an EL program in a school outside the district of residence.	Educating school where the assessed subjects are taught	District of residence of charter school		District of residence or charter school	State	<p>The district is responsible for the education of the student who is educated outside the district.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 1</p>

Career and Technical Center (CTC) or Area Vocational Technical School (AVTS)

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student enrolled in a district, charter or cyber charter school and attends any part-time/occupational career and technical center (CTC) <i>where one or more Keystone Exam course is taught.</i>	Educating CTC	District of residence ensures participation	Educating school (Occupational CTC)	District of residence/ charter or cyber charter school	State	The student's Keystone Exam/PASA results will be attributed to the educating school (part time/occupational CTC) where the Keystone/PASA course is taught. The District of residence is also accountable for the student's education. PDE Data Attribution Rule 24
Student enrolled in any full-time/comprehensive career and technical center (CTC) <i>where one or more Keystone Exam course is taught.</i>	Educating Comprehensive CTC	District of residence ensures participation Educating Comprehensive CTC orders test materials	Educating school (Comprehensive CTC)	Educating LEA (Comprehensive CTC)	State	The full-time/Comprehensive CTC teaches the assessed Keystone subject(s). PDE Data Attribution Rule 6

Foster Care

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Students placed into foster care.	Educating district/charter/ cyber charter school	Educating district/ charter/cyber charter school	Educating school/ charter or cyber charter school	Educating district/ charter/cyber charter school	State	The district/school/charter or cyber charter school providing educational services is responsible for the education of the student. PDE Data Attribution Rule 12

Homeless

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including students who are awaiting foster care placement and are placed in a county shelter or group home.	Educating district/charter or cyber charter school	Educating district/charter or cyber charter school	Educating school / charter or cyber charter school	Educating district / charter or cyber charter school	State	The district/school/charter or cyber charter school providing educational services is responsible for the education of the child. PDE Data Attribution Rule 10

Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Program

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student is placed by the district or charter school into an Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) Program conducted outside the regular classroom regardless of whether the program is operated: (1) by a school district, intermediate unit, area vocational-technical school, special school jointure or combination/ consortium of public schools; or (2) by a private alternative education institution (including a private residential rehabilitative institution) operated pursuant to a contract with a school entity.	Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Program	District of residence/ charter school ensures participation Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Program orders test materials	School of residence where the student would be placed if not at an AEDY	District of residence/ charter school	State	The district of residence or charter school is responsible for the student's education. Placement into an AEDY program does not absolve the district or charter school of its responsibility to educate the student. In addition, the AEDY placement is expected to be temporary until such time that the student is able to return to the district of residence or charter school. The school provides the curriculum for a student placed in an AEDY. PDE Data Attribution Rule 31

Court Adjudicated/Agency Placed/Correctional Facilities

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student is an adjudicated juvenile delinquent and placed into a Private Residential Rehabilitation Institution (PRRI)	PRRI	PRRI ensures student participation			State	<p>All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The PRRI ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s).</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 9</p>
Student is adjudicated juvenile delinquent and placed by any court to a private, locally operated delinquent institution.	Educating Entity	Educating Entity			State	<p>All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The Educating Entity ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s).</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 9</p>
Student is adjudicated juvenile delinquent and placed in a state-operated Youth Development Center or Youth Forestry Camp.	Educating Entity	Educating Entity			State	<p>All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The Educating Entity ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s).</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 9</p>
Student is placed by the court or other agency into a private institution that in turn places the child into a district or charter school.	Educating Entity	Educating Entity			State	<p>All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the State only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The Educating Entity ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s).</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 9</p>
Student up to the age of 21, arraigned as an adult, and placed in a county prison.	Educating Entity	Educating Entity			State	<p>Students up to the age of 21 are entitled to a public school education. All students must be educated. If students are being educated must be tested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The Educating Entity ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s). <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 9</p>

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student is placed based on recommendation of a therapist, psychiatrist, Student Assistance Program (SAP) Team, parent or court into a private drug and alcohol, mental health or similar facility, including but not limited to: partial hospitalization, private residential treatment center, or residential extended care program.	Educating Entity	Educating Entity			State	All students in grades 3-8 must take the PSSA. This applies to students with or without an IEP. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students who are eligible to take the PASA in grades 3-8 and 11 must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. Students enrolled in a course culminating in a Keystone Exam in Algebra I, Biology or Literature must take the assessment. The Achievement results will be attributed to the state only. The Educating Entity ensures student participation, orders test materials, and administers the assessment(s). PDE Data Attribution Rule 9

Other

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Student attends a public school as part of the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program.	Educating school	Educating school	Educating school	Educating district	State	Student is attributed to the entity where educational services are provided. PDE Data Attribution Rule 14
Student pays tuition to attend school (not a CTC/AVTS) outside of the district of residence.	Educating school	Educating school	Educating school	Educating district	State	Student is treated like a resident since tuition is received. PDE Data Attribution Rule 13
Student receives homebound instruction.	Educating school that the student would otherwise attend in the district of residence/charter or cyber charter school	Educating district of residence charter or cyber charter school	Educating school	Educating district, charter or cyber charter school	State	Homebound instruction is provided by the district/charter or cyber charter school thus, the district/charter or cyber charter school is responsible and accountable for the student's education. The school is responsible for the instruction and materials the student receives. PDE Data Attribution Rule 33
Homeschooled student who voluntarily participates in the PSSA through the district of residence.	Upon parental request, the district of residence orders materials and administers the assessment.					If the student does not receive instruction in the school district of residence and voluntarily participates based on parental request, the school district of residence is not responsible for the Achievement or participation of the student. PDE Data Attribution Rule: N/A (Do not report.)
Homeschooled student who receives educational services from the district of residence for one or more state assessed subjects.	Educating school	Educating school	Educating school	Educating district, charter or cyber charter school	State	This situation pertains to homeschooled students who enroll in a public school for specific academic instruction. Note: Any student not enrolled full-time in a public school but is receiving instruction in a public school in a tested subject must take the appropriate subject-specific PSSA or Keystone Exam. For attribution purposes, the school, district, charter or cyber charter school will be accountable for the participation and Achievement of the student in the assessed subject(s) for which instruction is provided. PDE Data Attribution Rule 32

Student Situation	Who is responsible for administering the state assessment?	Who is responsible for ordering test materials and ensuring student participation?	Achievement and Participation are attributed to:			Rationale
			School	LEA	State	
Students being educated outside the district of residence when the district of residence does not have a school with an appropriate grade level.	Educating school	Educating school	Educating school	Educating district, charter or cyber charter school	State	<p>There are five school districts for which this attribution applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryn Athyn SD (123460504); grades K-12 • Duquesne City SD (103022503); grades 7-12 • Saint Clair Area SD (129546803); grades 9-12 • Midland Borough SD (127045303); grades 9-12 • Wilkinsburg Borough SD (103029803); grades 7-12 <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 28 or 29</p>
Student attends a Special Program Jointure.	Educating school or program	<p>District of residence ensures participation.</p> <p>School/program of attendance orders test materials.</p>		Educating district, charter or cyber charter school	State	<p>Special Program Jointures are programs operated by an entity other than the district. This placement does not absolve the district of their responsibility to educate the student. Special Jointure programs include Beaver Valley Joint Operating Committee, Community College of Allegheny, Eastern Area Special School, Franklin Learning Center, Lancaster County Academy, South Central Area Special School, Southeastern Area Special School, Western Area Special School and York Adams Academy.</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 34</p>
Foreign exchange student.	Educating district/charter or cyber charter school	Educating district/charter or cyber charter school	Educating school	Educating district/ charter or cyber charter school	State	<p>Since the foreign exchange student is enrolled in a public school system, the student must participate in the state assessments and will be accountable for the results because the student was educated for a Full Academic Year.</p> <p>Please note: Foreign exchange students may be eligible for ESL services and exempt from state testing in PSSA ELA and Keystone Literature as a first year EL. (See the EL section on pages 4)</p> <p>PDE Data Attribution Rule 11</p>

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Response
What is the biggest change to the Attribution Map?	The dates of the assessments have been updated for the 2021-22 school year. There are additions to the FAQ section.
Are Opt-Outs counted in the Proficiency Rate calculation?	Yes, the State ESSA plan was approved by the USDE to count students that opt-out of state assessments.
How do I know if my student is a First Year EL?	Year 1 EL is calculated from the day after the PSSA/Spring Keystone assessment until the first day of next year's assessment. The LEA reports this information in PIMS.
Foreign Exchange: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do foreign exchange students count for Pro Rate calculation? b. Can foreign exchange students also be counted as First Year ELs? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Foreign exchange students are counted if enrolled for a Full Academic Year. b. Yes. Foreign Exchange students can be identified as First Year EL based on testing.
Must all eligible students test if only Full Academic Year (FAY) students are counted?	Yes. All eligible students must test according to federal requirements (grades 3-8 and 11).
Who are Full Academic Year (FAY) students and how are they identified?	Full Academic Year is defined as students who are continuously enrolled on or before Oct. 1 of the current school year until the last day of each subject-specific PSSA and Keystone assessments. FAY students are reported by the LEA in the school, district and state entry date fields in the PDE's Pennsylvania Information Management System (PIMS) Student Template.
Do students who take the PASA count toward the LEA's overall participation rate?	Yes. The PASA serves as the federally required statewide assessment for students who meet the eligibility criteria to take the alternate assessment, as determined by the IEP team. All students from the LEA who take the PASA, including those students the LEA may have placed in outside facilities, count toward the LEA's overall participation rate for statewide assessment, which is used in the calculation of the Achievement Rate.
How do I understand the Participation Rate in more detail?	Select the link to the Participation Rate webinar for an overview: Participation Rate in ESSA. For technical assistance, please contact the Division of Assessment and Accountability at ra-pas@pa.gov .
What resources are available if I have questions about uploading data to PIMS?	The following resources are available: the PIMS Help Desk , Office of Data Quality (ra-DDQDataCollection@pa.gov) or refer to the PIMS Manuals, Volume 1 and 2 (PDE's PIMS Webpage)

Question	Response
<p>Who should be reviewing assessment data for accuracy for the Grades 3-8 and Grade 11 Attribution Windows?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDE recommends that LEAs work as a team that includes PIMS Administrators, Assessment Coordinators and School Administrators because some reports are available in PDE's PIMS, the PAsecureID system, Data Recognition Corporation's eDIRECT system. Please note that data from eMetric's Data Interaction system is not used for Accountability because it does not include Attributions. • PIMS Administrators should submit accurate PIMS data. This includes analyzing Cognos reports, keeping student data updated, and ensuring the Student Information System (SIS) is accurately capturing student level data. • Assessment Coordinators should follow the Handbook for Assessment Coordinators and review the District Verification Reports, Questions related to the Handbook for Assessment Coordinators, please email RA-ED-PSSA-KEYSTONE@pa.gov. • School Administrators should oversee the test administration and support PIMS Administrators and Assessment Coordinators • Actively working within the DRC's Attribution Windows that accurately reflect the LEA's grades 3-8 and 11 students for PSSA, PASA and Keystone Exams.
<p>What does the Division of Assessment and Accountability do and how do I contact them?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division of Assessment and Accountability is part of the Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction. • It collects and provides training on PIMS data for state assessments, establishes policies related to PA assessments such as the Attribution Map, and reports data in compliance with state and federal requirements. This includes data for the Future Ready PA Index, ESSA dashboard, Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System, and the US Department of Education. For questions about the Future Ready PA Index, please email RA-EDFUTUREREADYPA@pa.gov. • This division includes subject-specific advisors who are responsible for creating, vetting and compiling the PSSA and Keystone Exam assessments as well as approving testing accommodations. • All other questions, please email questions to ra-pas@pa.gov.