



**RISE** 

**READINESS  
IMPROVEMENT  
SUCCESS  
EMPOWERMENT**

## WHAT IS RISE?

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, RISE will replace SAGE as Utah's computer adaptive standards assessment for students in grades 3-8. Students in grades 9-10 will participate in high school assessments that provide a predictive score for their college readiness assessment (ACT). RISE offers students, teachers and parents an improved overall experience and an opportunity to work collaboratively towards following the Utah State Core Standards. It also provides a baseline for student learning, while ensuring that student proficiency and growth reflect what they know and can do.



### READINESS

Assessments play an important role in preparing today's students for tomorrow's challenges. Information obtained from assessments makes teachers and parents aware of what their students know and can do today and what they are prepared to learn tomorrow.



### IMPROVEMENT

Assessments enable teachers to identify what areas students are struggling in and work with them on an individual basis to ensure they are prepared to reach the next milestone.



### SUCCESS

With a clear understanding of where students excel and where they need to improve, teachers can work collaboratively with families to ensure students continue to be success bound!



### EMPOWERMENT

Knowledge and skills provide students valuable resources that empower them by expanding their future opportunities and freedoms.

## THE BENEFITS OF RISE

Assessments are an essential element of the learning process. Teachers use a variety of assessments to evaluate student learning, provide specific feedback to students and parents, and make instructional decisions.

- ▶ A new interface that allows full navigation – backward, forward, review and revise.
- ▶ New and enhanced reports (for students, teachers and administration).
- ▶ Writing portion of the tests will now ONLY be for grades 5 and 8.
- ▶ Test questions are aligned to Utah core standards, utilizing questions developed over the past five years by Utah teachers.
- ▶ Provides teachers tools to inform their instruction and increase student achievement.
- ▶ Helps answer two questions: “how good is the school?” and “is the school improving?”
- ▶ Measures student growth and achievement.
- ▶ Utah is recognized as being one of the most honest states in reporting actual student proficiency, RISE will continue to provide this data.



# RISE FAQ

## **WHY IS UTAH CHANGING ASSESSMENTS?**

The contract USBE has had with the SAGE provider expires in 2018, making it necessary to seek requests for proposals (RFP). Questar was selected by the RFP committee as the best solution to provide the Utah Standards Assessment that is required by Utah Statute 53E-4-303.

## **WILL RISE BE COMPUTER ADAPTIVE?**

Yes, the statute requires this test to be computer adaptive, but this assessment will be multistage adaptive rather than item adaptive like the SAGE.

## **HOW DOES A MULTISTAGE ADAPTIVE TEST DIFFER FROM ITEM ADAPTIVE TEST?**

Like item adaptive, multistage testing is an algorithm-based approach to administering tests but rather than selecting individual items, groups of items are selected, building the test in stages.

## **WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A MULTISTAGE ADAPTIVE TEST?**

The biggest advantage for students is they will be allowed full navigation (backward, forward, review, & revise) within each stage or test section. In addition, multistage tests can sequence test content in a logical, predictable and standardized way, allowing for full use of the item bank.

## **WILL MY STUDENTS USE A DIFFERENT INTERFACE TO ACCESS THE TEST?**

Yes, it will continue to be delivered on computers, but the URL associated with the test will change. Questar will provide the test through their delivery system, which is called Nextera.

## **WHICH STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN RISE AND FOR WHICH SUBJECTS?**

Students in grades 3-8 will participate in RISE. ELA and math will be measured in all grades, science in grades 4-8 and writing in both 5th and 8th grades.

## **HOW LONG WILL THE TESTS TAKE?**

The tests should take about the same length of time as the previous test took.

## **WHY AREN'T 9TH AND 10TH GRADE STUDENTS INCLUDED IN RISE?**

Utah statute 53E-4-304 requires USBE to select an assessment for 9th and 10th grade students that is predictive of a student's college readiness as measured by the college readiness assessment most commonly submitted to local universities. This requirement resulted in the selection of a separate assessment for the 9th and 10th grade students.

## **WHY AREN'T WE ASSESSING WRITING IN ALL GRADES ANYMORE?**

The Utah State Board of Education made a policy decision to only assess writing in grades 5 and 8. Writing is still part of the Utah ELA Core and it is expected that students are being taught and assessed in those standards at the local level.

## **WILL MY STUDENTS RECEIVE AN INDIVIDUAL REPORT ON THEIR WRITING PROFICIENCY?**

Yes, the 5th and 8th grade students will receive a separate report, detailing their proficiency as measured against the writing standards of the Utah Core.

## **WILL STUDENTS/PARENTS STILL RECEIVE AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT REPORT (ISR)?**

Yes, schools are still required to provide an ISR to every tested student at the end of their testing session. The transition to a new provider has given Utah the opportunity to make improvements to the existing ISR as well as other classroom, school, and district reports.

## **WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE TREND DATA WE HAVE BEEN GATHERING OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS?**

The USBE is working to maintain trend data for all tested subjects, including maintaining the same scale score and performance level descriptors so data from these assessments can continue to be used with existing trend data.

## **WILL THE INTERIM AND BENCHMARK TEST STILL BE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY UTAH TEACHERS?**

Yes, Questar will provide these productivity tools for teacher use. These tests are not required and are not included in the school accountability system but can be used by English, math, and science teachers to quickly measure student learning and adjust instruction throughout the learning cycle.



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