

2019 UTAH ASSESSMENTS UPDATES

AS THE EXISTING SAGE CONTRACT EXPIRES AND UPDATED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES REQUIRE A UTAH STANDARDS ASSESSMENT FOR GRADES 3–8 AND A HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT FOR GRADES 9–10, TWO NEW VENDORS, QUESTAR (3–8) AND PEARSON (9–10), HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO DESIGN THE TESTS. THE SAGE TEST HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH THE RISE TEST AND GRADES 9–10 HAVE BEEN ADOPTED INTO UTAH ASPIRE PLUS.

GRADES 3–8

WHAT'S NEW

- ▶ Only testing grades 3–8
- ▶ New interface, appearance, experience
- ▶ Enhanced reports for individual students, teachers, administrators
- ▶ Writing assessed for 5th and 8th grades only
- ▶ Multistage adaptive format allows students full navigation forward and backward within stages of test

WHAT'S THE SAME

- ▶ Performance level descriptors and scale score used for comparability
- ▶ Aligns with Utah CORE Standards
- ▶ Uses Utah item bank questions developed by Utah teachers
- ▶ Adaptive to level of difficulty and depth of knowledge
- ▶ Interim and Benchmark assessments provided as production tools for teachers



GRADES 9–10

UTAH ASPIRE PLUS

- ▶ Only testing grades 9–10
- ▶ Hybrid of ACT and current assessment items
- ▶ Good predictive model for ACT taken in 11th grade
- ▶ Slated for Spring 2019

TRANSADAPTIVE

Utah Aspire Plus testing is translated into Spanish AND adapted to account for linguistic and cultural differences between English and Spanish speakers

WHY TEST

Assessments are an essential element in the learning process, allowing teachers and administrators to:

- ▶ Evaluate learning and provide specific feedback
- ▶ Measure student growth and achievement
- ▶ Gauge effectiveness of programs and resources
- ▶ Make instructional and policy decisions

HISTORY OF TESTING

