

A **District Communication Toolkit** to help families understand the importance of spring summative testing has been collaboratively developed by the Public School Accountability and Learning Services teams of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). These informational resources/templates are intended to help district officials communicate information about spring testing.

<p>For Districts: Should Arkansas Test in Spring 2021?</p>	<p>Teachers are trusted connections between families and schools. This one-page document explains the importance of spring testing. It may be shared with teachers to provide talking points when communicating with parents.</p>	<p>RESOURCE</p>
<p>For Districts: Real Concerns of Families</p>	<p>This document provides DESE responses to some of the most frequently asked questions by families.</p>	<p>RESOURCE</p>
<p>For DTCs/FECs: Summative Assessment Flexibilities for 2021</p>	<p>This document lists flexibilities offered by the DESE Student Assessment Unit to support districts in providing testing arrangements for families.</p>	<p>RESOURCE</p>
<p>For DTCs/FECs: School Assessment Flyers for Families</p>	<p>This Word document is a customizable flyer to support district communication with families about safety measures and testing flexibilities. When clicking RESOURCE, the document will automatically download.</p>	<p>RESOURCE</p>
<p>For DTCs: District Communication Timeline for Families of Students Attending Virtually</p>	<p>This document provides recommended communications for districts.</p>	<p>RESOURCE</p>



Key Messages

- State summative assessments will be administered on-site for all students in the spring of 2021.
- It is essential to conduct spring testing to determine our students' learning needs relative to acceleration, intervention, enrichment, and remediation.
- Districts are designing safe testing options and have expanded flexibility in testing windows, group size, location, and schedules.

For additional information and communication resources, please reach out to District Testing Coordinators and Family Engagement Coordinators.

Primary Contact: Sheree Baird
501-683-0902, sheree.baird@arkansas.gov
Secondary Contact: Chelsey Moore
501-371-8051, chelsey.moore@arkansas.gov