

TECHNICAL ISSUES IN LARGE SCALE ASSESSMENT COLLABORATIVE

Get to Know Us

We are a Collaborative of professionals focused on solving the technical issues facing state leaders in implementing, developing, and maintaining their large-scale assessment programs. These issues include psychometric challenges, innovative design approaches, comparability, and validity of claims and test results. The members of the Technical Issues in Large Scale Assessment (TILSA) Collaborative includes both state assessment leaders and partners from many assessment-related organizations. The state and industry partners collaborate to provide recommendations, identify potential solutions to current problems in large-scale assessments, and disseminate relevant research findings to state partners.

Benefits of Our Collaborative

As a member, your voice is vital in helping state policymakers understand the downstream influence of state assessment and accountability policy decisions, especially on the state's most vulnerable students. Our members lead the national conversation around assessment and equity. Assessment is often seen as biased and contributing to inequity. State large scale assessment exists to uncover equity issues in education and TILSA members regularly address potential threats to equity in assessment. Here are a few highlights from last year's Collaborative sessions:

- Members developed strategies to mitigate changes in assessment systems including the ability to seamlessly transfer test items and other critical program components across test providers.
- We explored opportunities for all students through the examination of career and technical education assessments and college readiness assessment.
- Our members also joined smaller work groups to dive deeply into topics like supporting assessment literacy, improving the design of alignment studies, and providing technical guidance for evaluating the technical quality of adaptive assessments.

Our Focus in 2020-2021

In the face of this global pandemic, our Collaborative will support states in the development and sharing of resources related to the implications of COVID-19 on assessment. Large scale assessment programs can have enormous impacts on every student, and we remain laser focused on our mission to solve the technical issues facing state leaders around large-scale assessment programs and unlock innovations. Our members will continue to explore the fundamental issues in educational assessment, particularly validity and validation, fairness, and applications of principled assessment design. And we will work with other Collaboratives, particularly the ASES and EL Collaboratives, to enhance our collective equity agenda by improving the fairness and accessibility of general, alternate, and English language proficiency assessments. As a member of TILSA, you'll join other state leaders to advance vital policy changes that will keep every student on the path to success.

Here's Where You'll Find Us

For the 2020-2021 program year, meetings will be held in-person when possible, and virtually when necessary due to safety. Any in-person meetings will also include the option to participate virtually. The Technical Issues in Large Scale Assessment Collaborative meeting dates for this program year are:

- October 21-22, 2020
- February 23-24, 2021 (Jacksonville, FL)
- June 24-25, 2021 (Minneapolis, MN)



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