



Assistant Commissioner for Data Systems  
Information and Reporting Services

February 2011

**TO:** Principals of Nonpublic Schools

**FROM:** Ken Wagner

**SUBJECT:** Information on Administering and Reporting the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT)

Beginning with the 2011-12 school year, the Department will no longer provide nonpublic schools with answer sheets and scanning services for the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) administered to English language learners (ELLs).

As is the case with all other State assessments, nonpublic schools planning to administer the NYSESLAT in the 2011-12 school year must contract with a Regional Information Center (RIC) for the answer sheets, scanning services, and technical assistance necessary to report these results to New York State's Student Information Repository System (SIRS). The Department, through the guided analysis reports via the Web site [www.nySTART.gov](http://www.nySTART.gov), will continue to provide schools with student- and school-level results, including analyses of student performance by racial/ethnic group, gender, English language proficiency, and disability status.

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires that the English language proficiency of all ELLs (as defined in Education Law § 3204[2-a][3]) be determined annually. In New York State, all ELLs in grades kindergarten through 12 enrolled in public and charter schools (including ungraded age-equivalent students with disabilities) must take the NYSESLAT. Nonpublic schools are strongly encouraged to administer the NYSESLAT to their ELLs. If a nonpublic school receives Title III funds, it must administer the NYSESLAT or an equivalent assessment to its ELL students annually.

In order to contract for these NYSESLAT services in the 2011-12 school year, please refer to the list of RIC contacts at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/nystart/tips.html#contax>. Access to the nySTART system is governed by a system of user IDs and passwords. Each participating nonpublic school will designate the individuals who are authorized to have access to the school's data on nySTART.

In the 2010-11 school year, the Department will continue to provide nonpublic schools with answer sheets and scanning services for the NYSESLAT. Information on ordering NYSESLAT is being provided to schools by the Department's contractor, Questar Assessment, Inc. School administrators who have questions concerning the ordering of NYSESLAT may contact Questar Assessment, Inc. by phone at 866-644-

6648 or via e-mail to [nyseslatsupport@questarai.com](mailto:nyseslatsupport@questarai.com). Questions about administering NYSESLAT should be submitted by e-mail to [emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov).

If you have questions about contracting for NYSESLAT answer sheet and scanning services in the 2011-12 school year, please contact your Regional Information Center or the Office of Information and Reporting Services at (518) 474-7965. If you have questions about NYSESLAT requirements, please contact the Office of Bilingual Education at 518-474-8775 or <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged>. If you have questions about mandated services, please contact Mandated Services Aid at (518) 474-3936, [emscmsa@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:emscmsa@mail.nysed.gov) or <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/nonpub/mandatedservices/home.html>.

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