



OKLAHOMA STATE
DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

July 7, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

In March 2020, the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) [requested](#) an assessment and accountability waiver for the 2019-20 school year, which was approved by the US Department of Education. As a result, the state did not administer its annual assessments for English language arts, mathematics, or science for students in grades 3-8 or high school juniors in spring 2020.

Recognizing the challenges related to the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) throughout the 2020-21 school year, in May 2021 the OSDE requested an [accountability waiver](#) from the US Department of Education. This waiver was also [approved](#), meaning that the OSDE will neither identify schools for support and improvement nor calculate and report indicator and overall school letter grades for the 2021 Oklahoma School Report Cards.

Although the OSDE requested an accountability waiver for 2020-21, agency leaders recognized the importance of making summative assessments available to all Oklahoma schools and students. Providing such data to stakeholders will allow them to identify areas of need, inequities to access, and improvements to celebrate, without the school accountability measures and processes that typically accompany these data.

The spring 2020 instructional and assessment disruptions, in combination with the 2021 accountability waiver, preclude the OSDE from calculating or reporting the Academic Growth indicator (ESSA Section 1111(h)(1)(C)(iii)(I)) or data surrounding student absenteeism (ESSA Section 1111(h)(1)(C)(v)). As such, these GPRA-required data will not be available for reporting until fall of 2022, at the earliest.

For further questions, please contact the OSDE's Family and Community Engagement/21CCLC Office at (405) 522-6225.

Sincerely,

Maria Cammack
Deputy Superintendent of
Assessment and Accountability

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