

Seeking Reviewers for Dynamic Learning Maps 2014-15 External Review of Testlets!

The Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment Consortium is seeking educators from its partner states to review testlets (sets of 3-8 items) for the new assessments! Panelists will review items in fall 2014.

What is Dynamic Learning Maps?

The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment Consortium includes 20 partner states and is based at the University of Kansas. DLM is developing a next generation alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. DLM assessments measure student mastery of content in English language arts and math based on progressions in a learning map. The assessments will primarily be delivered in the form of short testlets that contain 3-8 items.

What is testlet review?

New testlets have been written for DLM in 2013 and 2014. All new testlets need to be reviewed by educators from outside the DLM project to make sure the items are of high quality and are ready for field testing. Items are reviewed by different panels for different purposes. In DLM, we will review for content, instructional relevance, appropriateness and accessibility for students with significant cognitive disabilities, freedom from bias, and sensitivity.

What does a panelist do?

Because we work with many states, our panels will be conducted virtually. Each panelist will be assigned groups of testlets to review within a certain window of time. Panelists will preview items on their own computers and will complete an online survey about each set of items.

What would being a panelist mean for me?

1. Once selected, you will successfully complete an online training course and sign a security agreement.
2. You will be assigned batches of testlets review and evaluate. Each batch of reviews must be completed in the allotted window (usually two weeks). There would be several batches assigned throughout the 2014-15 academic year. Each batch is projected to take 1-2 hours to review.
3. Panelists will not receive a salary but there will be incentives for completing review targets.
4. Panelists may be eligible for continuing education credits through their state or district for completing the 1-hour training course.

What are the requirements?

There are no minimum qualifications to volunteer as a panelist. We seek educators with a broad array of perspectives and backgrounds, although we especially seek individuals with content expertise in English language arts or math and in education and assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. All panelists must have access to a computer with internet access. We ask that volunteers commit to at least five review assignments over a 3-month window.

How do I sign up?

To volunteer as a panelist, complete the survey at https://kansasedu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eQdnL0NA9nJEBYF
DLM will notify volunteers who are selected to serve according to the following schedule:

Volunteer by	Notified of selection and to complete training by	Panelist completes training by
July 27	July 30	August 17
August 17	August 20	August 31
September 5	September 12	September 19

First assignments will typically be made within 10 days after the deadline for completing training, even if the panelist completes training before the deadline.

If you have any questions about DLM external review, please email dln.externalreview@ku.edu.