

New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) and New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech Guidance

The purpose of this document is to offer clear and practical guidance to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) on the appropriate provision of accessibility features and accommodations, more specifically Speech-to-Text and/or Text-to-Speech, for students participating in the NJSLA or NJGPA assessments for English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, or science. Accessibility features are tools or preferences that are either built into the assessment system or provided externally by test administrators. Accessibility features can be used by any student and do not require an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or multilingual learner plan while accommodations are intended to provide equitable access for students with disabilities, multilingual learners, or multilingual learners with disabilities. It is essential that LEAs carefully review this guidance document to make informed decisions and apply professional judgment and prudence when assigning accessibility features or accommodations tailored to individual student needs. LEAs are strongly encouraged to review both the *New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) and New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) Accessibility Features and Accommodations (AF&A) Manual* and the *New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) & New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) Decision-Making Process Manual* for guidance to ensure that state assessments produce valid results for all students. These resources are located at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Accessibility Features and Accommodations (AF&A) Resources**.

LEAs play a critical role in ensuring equitable access to assessments while maintaining the integrity of the testing process. Thoughtful implementation of these supports helps foster inclusive educational practices, ensuring that all students—particularly those with unique learning needs—can demonstrate their knowledge and skills accurately.

For questions or concerns, LEAs are strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Assessments at 609-376-3960 or email at assessment@doe.nj.gov.

Speech-to-Text for ELA

Option 1 – Embedded Speech-to-Text

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- BL – Assistive Technology – Non-Screen Reader = Y
- BR – Speech-to-Text and Word Prediction = Y

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Non-Screen Reader form with Co:Writer and Read&Write extensions available within TestNav.

Option 2 – External Speech-to-Text

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- BW – ELA Constructed Response = 01 (Speech-to-Text) and/or
- BX – ELA Selected Response or Technology Enhanced Items = 01 (Speech-to-Text)

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Main form, and a 2nd device is needed for Speech-to-Text (please refer to the *Web-Based Third-Party Assistive Technology for Speech-to-Text Form* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Forms**). Answers are later transcribed from the 2nd device into TestNav (please refer to the *NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Tests Procedures (Updated January 2024)* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources**).

**New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) and New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA)
Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech Guidance**

Speech-to-Text for Mathematics and Science

External Speech-to-Text

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- BY – Mathematics/Science Accommodated Response = 01 (Speech-to-Text, and/or
- Multilingual Learner Accommodated Response = 01 (Speech-to-Text)

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Main form, and a 2nd device is needed for Speech-to-Text (please refer to the *Web-Based Third-Party Assistive Technology for Speech-to-Text Form* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test**

Administration Resources > Forms). Answers are later transcribed from the 2nd device into TestNav (please refer to the *NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Tests Procedures (Updated January 2024)* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test**

Administration Resources > Testing Resources).

Text-to-Speech for ELA

Embedded Text-to-Speech

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- CG – Text-to-Speech = 01

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Text-to-Speech form.

Text-to-Speech for Mathematics and Science

Embedded Text-to-Speech

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- CG – Text-to-Speech =
 - English: 02 or *03 (*Math only)
 - Spanish: 04 or *05 (*Math only)

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Text-to-Speech form.

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Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech Guidance**

Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech for ELA

Option 1 – Embedded Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- BL – Assistive Technology Non-Screen Reader = Y
- BR – Speech-to-Text and Word Prediction = Y

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Non-Screen Reader form with Co:Writer and Read&Write extensions available within TestNav.

Note: The Text-to-Speech functionality with Read&Write extension is available.

Option 2 – Embedded Text-to-Speech and External Speech-to-Text

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- CG – Text-to-Speech = 01, and
- BW – ELA Constructed Response = 01 (Speech-to-Text), and/or
- BX – ELA Selected Response or Technology Enhanced Items = 01 (Speech-to-Text)

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Text-to-Speech form, and a 2nd device is needed for Speech-to-Text (please refer to *Web-Based Third-Party Assistive Technology for Speech-to-Text Form* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Forms**). Answers are later transcribed from the 2nd device into TestNav (please refer to the *NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Tests Procedures (Updated January 2024)* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources**).

Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech for Mathematics and Science

Embedded Text-to-Speech and External Speech-to-Text

The following Student Registration/Personal Needs Profile (SR/PNP) fields must be addressed:

- CG – Text-to-Speech =
 - English: 02 or *03 (*Math only)
 - Spanish: 04 or *05 (*Math only)
- BY – Mathematics/Science Accommodated Response = 01 (Speech-to-Text), and/or
- Multilingual Learner Accommodated Response = 01 = Speech-to-Text

Expected Outcome – The student will be assigned the Text-to-Speech form, and 2nd device needed for Speech-to-Text (please refer to *Web-Based Third-Party Assistive Technology for Speech-to-Text Form* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Forms**). Answers are later transcribed from 2nd device into TestNav (please refer to the *NJSLA/NJGPA Accommodated Paper-Tests Procedures (Updated January 2024)* at the [New Jersey Assessments Resource Center](#) located under **Educator Resources > Test Administration Resources > Testing Resources**).