



# Online Testing Waiver Request

This form is for requesting a waiver from the requirement to administer assessments online during the 2018–19 school year pursuant to the General Appropriations Act, 2018 S.C. Act 264, Proviso 1.76 (SDE: Technology Technical Assistance). If the State Board of Education approves this waiver, the named assessment(s) may be administered via paper and pencil.

Please state specific reason(s) why the named assessments cannot be administered online during the 2018–19 school year. Also please specify how these concerns will be addressed to alleviate the inability to test online in the following school year (2018–19).

Potential limitations may include, but are not limited to, inadequate testing facilities or insufficient infrastructure resources needed to conduct these assessments online. Provide any supporting documentation such as: District Technology Readiness Study Final Report, Testing Technical Specifications, Network Connectivity, Hardware Availability, etc.

Please send the request to Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, Office of Federal and State Accountability, 1429 Senate Street Room 501-A, Columbia, SC 29201. The Department requests that waiver requests be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than December 1, 2018, so that paper scoring sheets may be ordered in time for test administration.

## Contact Information

Please name the assessments for which a waiver is requested

Check all that box that apply to your waiver application:

Note: RTF = residential treatment facilities

SC READY ELA grade 3  4  5  6  7  8  all grades but only for RTF

SC READY Math grade 3  4  5  6  7  8  all grades but only for RTF

SC PASS Science grade 4  6  8  all grades but only for RTF

SC PASS Social Studies grade 5  7  all grades but only for RTF

Access for ELLs (all grades)

Other (please specify)

Please indicate whether a waiver was obtained in 2017-18, and the status of last year's plan to address.

District obtained a waiver in 2017–18? Yes  No . If "yes," what is the status of last year's plan to be ready for online testing?

We made some progress with the technology skills needed by older students to navigate the online assessment. We still believe students are penalized for technology proficiency or the lack thereof, rather than the assessment truly measuring their proficiency in ELA, reading and writing.

## Reason for Waiver Request

Students in grade 3 and 4 do not possess the technology skills currently required by DRC/SCREADY. It is developmentally inappropriate for students of this age. This assessment is supposed to measure English Language Arts, Reading and Writing, and not technology proficiency. We hope the state will work to solve its problems with this assessment.

## Plan to Address the Reason for the Waiver Request

The State of South Carolina should procure a different assessment or allow for paper pencil testing for younger students who do not possess the technology proficiency required to navigate the current DRC SCREADY assessment.

## Signatures

Signature, Chair of School Board of Trustees/Charter School

Date

Signature of Superintendent of District/Public Charter School District

Date