New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness (NM-ASR)

Test Blueprint

Guidance for NM-ASR

- All eligible students in **grades 5, 8, and 11** will take the NM-ASR.
- The NM-ASR Assessments are **not timed** assessments.
- Students may have extended time beyond the recommended time.
- All test items are aligned to and assess the New Mexico STEM Ready! Science Standards which include both the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and New Mexico Specific Standards.
- The NM-ASR may include multiple versions that have been equated to allow for a more comprehensive coverage across the New Mexico STEM Ready! Science Standards.
- **Field test items** will be embedded within the operational test form at each grade level.
- **Calculators** are available for the NM-ASR. Grade 11 students will also have a periodic table available for reference.
- A **Glossary of Science Terms** is available in both English and Spanish for grades 5, 8, 11.
- **Practice tests** for NM-ASR are available. Educators can find more information in the NM-ASR Kite Practice Test Guide.

Item Type Information

- **Stimulus-based item blocks** are items associated with a science phenomenon. There are 2-6 machine-scored items associated with the stimulus; each associated item may be worth 1 or 2 points.
- **Stand-alone items** are machine-scored items that are self-contained; each item may be worth 1 or 2 points.
- **Open-ended items** are human-scored items that are worth up to 4 points. Open-ended items will cover each of the three reporting categories: life sciences, physical sciences, Earth & space sciences.
- Stimulus-based and stand-alone items include many different item types. All these items are machine scored and may be worth 1 or 2 points. Among the specific item types are multiple choice, drop-down, matrix, matching lines, background graphic, hot spot, multiple drop bucket, ordering, and composite.
- For additional details and samples of item types, view the NM-ASR Test Specifications.

Test Design

	Grade 5	Grade 8	Grade 11
Total Operational Points (Machine-Scored + Open-ended*)	64	64	68
Number of Sessions	3	3	3
Estimated Time per Session (minutes)	50	50	55
Total Estimated Time (minutes)	**150**	**150**	**165**

**New open-ended items will be field tested during the 2026-2027 NM-ASR administration.*

Operational Test

Science Reporting Category	Grade 5		Grade 8		Grade 11	
	# of Core Points	% of Core Points	# of Core Points	% of Core Points	# of Core Points	% of Core Points
Practices and Crosscutting Concepts in **Earth and Space Sciences**	18-22	28-35%	18-22	28-35%	18-22	26-32%
Practices and Crosscutting Concepts in **Life Sciences**	18-22	28-35%	20-24	31-38%	22-26	32-39%
Practices and Crosscutting Concepts in **Physical Sciences**	24-28	38-44%	20-24	31-38%	22-26	32-39%
TOTAL	**64**	**100%**	**64**	**100%**	**68**	**100%**