


Policy # 101	Subject: Universal Screener Requirements
Effective Date: 11/15/11 Revised Date: 06/11/12 Revised Date: 03/31/18 Revised Date: 7/06/2021	Page 1 of 2
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DSCYF/DMSS/ Education Unit

I. PURPOSE

To ensure all students are provided a standard assessment and diagnostic measures to monitor academic progress and meet state and federal mandates.

II. BACKGROUND

State legislature and Federal agencies require the Education Unit to demonstrate annual growth in reading and math scores*. Whereas statewide assessments commonly used in the public school system cannot and do not demonstrate the growth attained for youth educated in DSCYF facilities, the Education Unit must utilize a separate measure. Title I, Part D allows for the selection of other assessments "if it is determined that the State assessments are not available or would not provide accurate information about the progress of children" (Title I, Part D Nonregulatory Guidance p. 20 R-2).

A standardized assessment conducive to assessing a transient population will allow the Education Unit to demonstrate growth of individual students, analyze trends and patterns of student learning, and provide insight for daily curriculum and coursework that benefits this high-risk student population. Standardized tools and practices will ensure valid and reliable results.

This standardized assessment will provide all educational staff with an initial assessment of students' abilities and needs. Further curriculum-based assessment and surveys will provide teachers with additional diagnostic information useful for lesson planning. It does not prevent eligible students from participating in the State's assessment program.

III. POLICY

All students newly enrolled in a DSCYF facility will be administered a Unit selected standardized educational assessment within the first 3 school days** of their enrollment in education and approximately every ninety (90) calendar days of continuous stay thereafter. All scores (reported

as grade equivalencies) will be logged into FOCUS within 24 hours of test administration. Results of all educational assessments will be shared with the student, teachers, family, and subsequent educational placement.

IV. PROCEDURE

All students newly enrolled in a DSCYF facility will be administered a Unit selected standardized educational assessment within the first 3 days of their school enrollment and approximately every ninety (90) calendar days of continuous stay thereafter. The Education Unit has identified Renaissance's STAR Reading, STAR Math, and STAR Early Literacy as its assessment. This assessment will remain in use until further notice.

Assessments will be administered in accordance with assessment guidelines, this policy, and federal requirements.

Assessment administrators will be thoroughly trained in the proper administration procedures.

All educational assessments must be logged into FOCUS. The student's grade placement and grade placement on the FOCUS assessment data page must match. Results must be documented by grade equivalents and may be documented by other categories (i.e., standard scores, stanines) as appropriate.

Students who maintain a continuous stay within the Education Unit will be administered the approved standardized testing instrument in accordance with this policy. In other words, change of placement within the Education Unit does not restart the assessment timeline. When receiving a student from another DSCYF program, Educational Diagnosticians are responsible for ascertaining whether or not STAR testing has been completed.

*Title I , Part D requires data collection annually for Delaware's Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR). Part of this form requires the reporting of student growth in the areas of reading and math from the primary assessment. Title 14, Chapter 12, Subchapter VII requires that one component of the current teacher evaluation system is "dedicated exclusively to student improvement". To meet this requirement, the Unit selected a primary assessment from a list of standardized measures approved by the Department (Del. C.§ 1270).

**Title I, Part D requires each student to be administered a pre-test within three (3) days of school enrollment (20 U.S.C. 6455)