



# Florence Unified School District No. 1

P.O. Box 2850 Florence, Arizona 85132  
(520) 866-3500 Fax (520) 868-2302

Mr. Chris Knutsen, Superintendent

Mr. Tony Jimenez, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services

Dr. Adam Leckie, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

My main goal is to guide your child towards achieving the best in academics as well as in other skills that will help them become a responsible adult. I am committed to doing my best in making sure that I keep in touch with you concerning any changes or upcoming events.

We have the upcoming **AZELLA Spring 2021 Reassessment Test** beginning in February 2021 through April 2021.

- **February 1-May 21<sup>st</sup>: Spring 2021 AZELLA Reassessment Test Window for all EL students**
- **Stand Alone Field Test (SAFT) has been postponed until Fall-2021**

Your cooperation is very important in helping your child achieve their full potential.

## **Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA)**

“The Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) is a standards-based assessment that meets both state and federal requirements to measure students’ English language proficiency. AZELLA is used for both placement and reassessment purposes. Students who have been identified as second language learners on the Home Language Survey take the AZELLA placement test, and the students’ proficiency scores determine appropriate placement for instruction. Students who have been placed into an English language learner program will also take the AZELLA reassessment once per year until they achieve proficiency. Students who have scored proficient on the AZELLA are then monitored for two years to help ensure success after their move into a mainstream classroom.” (© 2020 Arizona Department of Education)

## **Board of Education**

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Steve Johnson, Member

Bob Dailey, Vice-President  
Jim Thomas, Member

Katrina Solis, Member

## Who is required to be tested?

- Kindergarten and new-to-Arizona students with a Home Language Survey that has one or more responses indicating a language other than English
- EL students with their last AZELLA test record showing as **Undetermined**
- EL students with their last AZELLA test record being outdated (dated before July 1, 2019) with an Overall Proficiency Level (OPL) of less than proficient.

**Kindergarten students** who have been enrolled in school between July 1 – December 31, 2020 and were **not administered** the Kindergarten Placement Test (KPT) due to COVID-19 concerns, will need to be included in the Spring 2021 Reassessment testing and administered the Stage I Reassessment Test.

Newly enrolled (on and after January 4, 2021) **Kindergarten students** who have never been enrolled in school (Grade K) can be administered the AZELLA Kindergarten Placement Test.

**Grades 1-12 students** who are required to be administered the Placement Test must be administered the Placement Test. Students who are administered the Placement Test on and after January 4, 2021, will not participate in the **Spring 2021 Reassessment Test**. This includes any student whose parent(s)/guardian(s) have withdrawn student from English learner services. Understand that his/her progress in English language acquisition will continue to be monitored and assessed with the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) until an Overall Proficiency Level of "Proficient" is attained. (ESSA § 1112(e)(3)(A))

## Practice Tests

The only purpose of the Practice Tests is for students to become familiar with the testing platform and the navigation tools. Students do not require a username and password to access the Online Practice Test. Test Administrators will monitor students to ensure that they are comfortable using the navigation tools and are progressing through the Practice Test at an appropriate pace for the proficiency and grade level. Our goal is to simulate the actual test environment. Creating an appropriate test environment for the Online Practice Test is another way to assist students to feel comfortable when taking the online AZELLA Tests.

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## Secure and Safe Test Administration

All AZELLA tests MUST be administered in person at a secure test environment at your child's designated school site. Trained and certified staff will administer the AZELLA to those students who require an AZELLA test and are attending school through virtual distance learning by appointment and at the school site building designated by your child's home school site.

Schools will follow **Florence Unified School District's COVID-19 policies** and protocols while maintaining a secure test environment and following all test security policies and procedures provided by Arizona Department of Education.

To help achieve better learning, please discuss the importance of testing and ensuring an earnest attempt to the best of the student's abilities.

## Questions Concerning Whether to Test a Student

If you have questions whether a student requires any of the AZELLA tests, please send your inquiry to [jthompson@fusdaz.org](mailto:jthompson@fusdaz.org).

Please contact our District ELL Department for further assistance:

**Lillianna H. Falberg**

*Interpreter/Translator*

Florence Unified School District

(480) 987 -7613

Ext. 7613

[lfalberg@fusdaz.org](mailto:lfalberg@fusdaz.org)

**Jessica Thompson**

*AZELLA District Test Coordinator*

Florence Unified School District

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Fax: 520-868-7354

[jthompson@fusdaz.org](mailto:jthompson@fusdaz.org)

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