NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA) APPROVED ACCOMMODATIONS
Digital copies available at http://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/

The purpose of this document is to provide a quick reference for school districts about the following:

1) *Test Administration Practices* --- Changes or adjustments in test administration that are appropriate for **all** students.
2) *Test Accommodations* ---
   - *For students with IEPs or 504 plans:* Adjustments or adaptations in the test or the testing process that do not change the test expectation, the grade level, or the construct or content being measured. **Accommodations should only be used if appropriate for the student and used during instruction throughout the year.**
   - *For English language learners:* Changes to testing procedures, testing materials, or the testing situation in order to allow the student meaningful participation in an assessment. **Some accommodations, such as native language assessment, may be appropriate without prior use during instruction.**
   - A student who has an IEP and is identified as an English language learner is allowed accommodations as appropriate for both designations.
3) *Test Modifications* --- Adjustments or changes in the test or the testing process that change the test expectation, the grade level, or the construct or content being measured. **Modifications are not appropriate for state testing.**

	Test Administration Practices (appropriate for all students)
I.	*Test Administration Practices – includes Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science*
1.	Test administrator reads directions aloud for student and rereads as needed.
2.	Test administrator provides an audio recording of directions.
3.	Test administrator OR student highlights important information in test directions.
4.	Test administrator reads, simplifies, explains, or clarifies directions.
5.	Test administrator provides distraction-free space or alternate, supervised location for student (e.g., study carrel, front of room, alternate room).
6.	Test administrator provides blank scratch paper or graph paper.
7.	Test administrator directs/redirects student focus on test as needed.
8.	Student rereads and/or restates directions in his/her own words.
9.	Student uses page marker (e.g., bookmark or straight edge) to maintain place.
10.	Student marks test booklet (e.g., highlight, annotate, strike-through.) (Use no highlighters on ELA/M/S paper/pencil answer sheets.)
11.	Student reads aloud to self in quiet manner.
12.	Student takes test at home or in care facility (e.g., hospital) with district supervision.
13.	These tools are available for all students on the DRC INSIGHT online system or may be made available to students taking a paper/pencil test as appropriate. • Pointer – an arrow to select or de-select answers to multiple-choice questions • Flag – a tool to mark an item for review later • Magnifier – a tool to enlarge the screen image by 1.5 or 2.0 orders of magnitude • Pause/Resume – a button to pause and begin again • Color Chooser – a tool to change the color of the background screen, including behind passages, items, directions, graphics, and formulas • Cross-Off – a red X to cross out answer options • Highlighter – a tool to highlight parts of a passage or item • Line Guide – a blue line to keep one's place when reading • Sticky Note – adds notes that can be used for future reference anywhere on the screen

	Test Accommodations for Students with IEP or 504 Plan **(includes NeSA English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science)**
	IMPORTANT INFORMATION A. Each student's IEP or 504 team should determine the NeSA testing mode (online or paper/pencil) most appropriate for the child. This decision should be conveyed to the District Assessment Contact (DAC) for communication through eDirect. B. Participation in the Alternate Assessment is determined by the IEP team and based on "Decision-Making Guidelines" and "Alternate Assessment Criteria/Checklist" C. All accommodations must be specified in the student's IEP. D. Best practice is to communicate with students concerning testing mode decisions.
II.	***Content Presentation***
14.	Test administrator turns pages for student.
15.	Audio presentation of directions, content, and test items to student. For NeSA-ELA, passages may not be read aloud. • Test administrator pronounces individual words in directions or test items upon student request. • Test administrator reads test aloud verbatim and rereads as needed. • Test materials are provided on audiotapes, iPods, CDs, etc. (to be used in conjunction with the paper/pencil test). • Text-to-Speech is available for online NeSA-ELA/M/S, provided by INSIGHT software.
16.	Student uses specialized presentation of test (e.g., colored paper, visual magnification device, large print, tactile graphics, Braille).
17.	Student uses audio amplification device (e.g., audio trainer, hearing aids, classroom amplification).
18.	Student uses acoustical voice feedback device (e.g., WhisperPhone).
19.	Interpreter signs directions, content, and test items to student. For NeSA-ELA, passages may not be signed.
20.	Test administrator increases white space on the page (e.g., less print on a page, increased space between items, use of a template to reduce visible print).
21.	Test administrator provides manipulatives to support student understanding of items/response options.
III.	***Response***
22.	Student responds directly in the NeSA ELA/M/S test booklet or with a Braille Production Device (e.g. Brailler, Electronic Braillewriter, Electronic Notetaker). Test administrator transfers student responses to the answer sheet.
23.	Student uses primary mode of communication (e.g., communication device, pointing). Test administrator records student answers.
24.	Student uses Braille Production Device, speech-to-text, or specialized writing materials/technology to respond to the NeSA-ELA text-dependent analysis prompt. The test administrator transcribes response to paper/pencil booklet or on-line system. The student response is to be transcribed exactly as it is written—i.e. with spelling, punctuation, and spacing replicated. The original student response will be sent to DRC with returned testing materials. See Transcription Protocol for Text-Dependent Analysis.
25.	Student responds orally to test items or text-dependent analysis prompt OR uses sign language to indicate responses. Test administrator records student responses. For NeSA-ELA text-dependent analysis, student must indicate the placement of punctuation, capital letters, indentations, etc. See Scribing Protocol for Text-Dependent Analysis.
26.	Student uses material/devices to problem solve or organize thoughts/responses. • Computation supports (e.g., abacus, calculator, addition/multiplication chart, number line) on NeSA-M • Spelling/word prediction device on NeSA-ELA text-dependent analysis • Commercial dictionary--NeSA-M, NeSA-S only. No commercial dictionary allowed on NeSA-ELA
IV.	***Timing/Scheduling/Setting***
27.	Test administrator provides a flexible testing schedule for NeSA ELA/M/S. Students may have one additional day for each session of online tests. Day two of each session will require an unlock. Students needing more than two days per session will require a paper/pencil test.
28.	Test administrator provides multiple and frequent individual breaks during testing time.
29.	Test administrator changes testing location to increase physical access or use of special equipment (e.g., appropriate lighting or specialized desk).

Test Accommodations for English Language Learners

(includes NeSA English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science)

NDE is providing the following Spanish translations in 2016-2017:

- **NeSA-ELA – Spanish-translated directions (not items or passages) available in both paper/pencil and online.**
- **NeSA-M and S – Spanish-translated assessment available in both paper/pencil and online.**
- **The text-to-speech online test function is available only in English for online NeSA-ELA (not passages) and NeSA-M/S provided by INSIGHT software.**
- **Districts MUST use NDE provided translations for Spanish.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A. Districts may exempt a recently arrived limited English proficient student from the NeSA-ELA assessment for 12 months or one reporting period. A district must administer the state mathematics, and science tests to recently arrived limited English proficient students.

B. For NeSA (M/S only), testing in native language is allowable for up to three years (only for students indicated as Limited English Proficient on NSSRS). On a case-by-case basis, a district can test in native language for two additional years if the academic assessment in the native language would likely yield more accurate results.

C. Former ELL (redesignated) students are allowed the use of accommodations on state assessments during the two-year monitoring period. They are not, however, allowed native language assessments (translated tests).

D. Districts should determine the NeSA testing mode (online or paper/pencil) most appropriate for the child for each assessment. This decision should be conveyed to the District Assessment Contact (DAC) for communication through eDirect.

E. Paper/pencil and on-line modes cannot be used on the same assessment. (e.g. Students may not have a paper/pencil version while responding online. Students cannot respond online for ELA and then respond to the TDA paper/pencil.)

F. For additional clarification see *Guide for Including and Accommodating English Language Learners in Nebraska State Accountability*

V.	**Direct Linguistic Support with Test Directions**	
30.	Test administrator reads directions aloud in English or native language and rereads as needed. (Paper/pencil or on-line) Text-to-speech available in English provided by INSIGHT software.	
31.	Test administrator provides written directions in native language.	
32.	Test administrator provides audio recording of directions in English or native language.	
33.	Test administrator simplifies, explains, or clarifies directions in English or native language.	
VI.	**Direct Linguistic Support with Content and Test Items**	
34.	Audio presentation of content and test items to student **in English**. For NeSA-ELA, passages may not be read aloud. • Test administrator reads test aloud verbatim and rereads as needed. • Test materials are provided on audiotapes, iPods, CDs, etc. (to be used in conjunction with the paper/pencil test). • Text-to-Speech is available for online NeSA-ELA/M/S, provided by INSIGHT software.	
35.	Audio presentation of content and test items to student **in native language** on NeSA-M/S only. • Test administrator provides a translator to translate content and test items into written native language. • Test administrator provides a translator to orally translate content and test items verbatim and rereads as needed. Student is able to respond orally in his/her native language. A translator records student responses into online system or regular answer sheet. • Test materials are provided on audiotapes, iPods, CDs, etc. (to be used in conjunction with the paper/pencil test).	
36.	Test administrator provides district-developed bilingual word list, allowed on NeSA-M and NeSA-S only.	
37.	Test administrator provides word-to-word bilingual dictionary allowed on NeSA-M and NeSA-S only.	
VII.	**Indirect Linguistic Support**	
38.	Test administrator provides a flexible testing schedule for NeSA ELA/M/S. Students may have one additional day for each session of online tests. Day two of each session will require an unlock. Students needing more than two days per session will require a paper/pencil test.	
39.	Test administrator provides multiple and frequent individual breaks within a session during testing time.	