



PARCC's Goals

- To build a pathway to college and career readiness
- To construct assessments that enable cross-state comparisons
- To create better assessments
- To make better use of technology in assessments
- To match investments in testing with investments in teaching

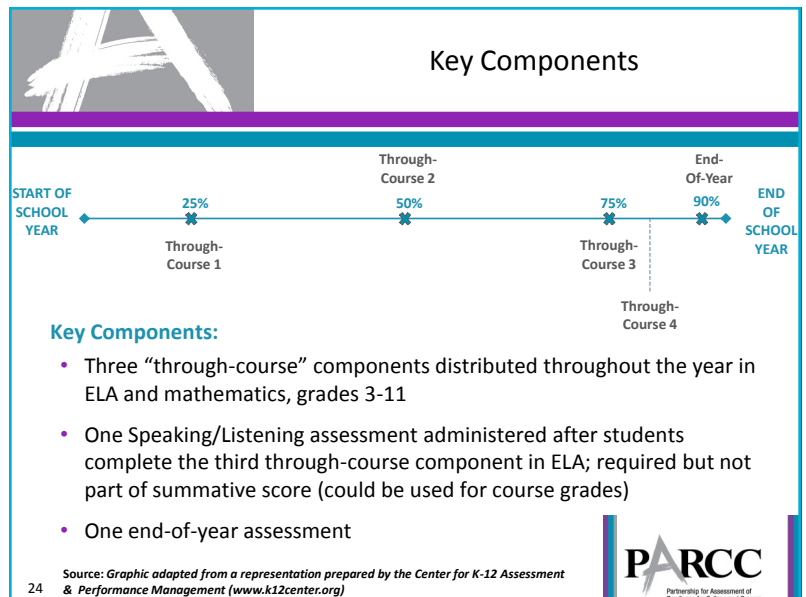
Leaders from 25 states formed the **Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers** (PARCC) to create a next-generation assessment system that will ensure students across the country are expected to meet common, high standards that will prepare them for their futures.

- The PARCC will develop high school college-ready assessments in mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy that can be used to signal whether students have acquired the prerequisite knowledge and skills for entry-level, credit-bearing postsecondary courses. Assessments in grades 3-8 and earlier in high school will measure whether students are *on track* to achieve readiness by high school graduation.
- PARCC assessments will be computer based. In recognition of the powerful role technology is playing in students' lives, the majority of the new assessments will be designed to be administered by computer. This will enable much faster turnaround of results, and it will allow for innovations in test items by

Visit the ISBE website for additional PARCC information:

http://www.isbe.net/common_core/htmls/parcc.htm

The Partnership's assessment system will include several **through-course assessments in each grade**, which will be combined with more streamlined end-of-year tests to produce a more complete picture of student performance. These assessments will measure student learning closer to the time when classroom instruction takes place and will give feedback throughout the year, allowing educators to adjust instructional practices or give extra support to students who need it.



- The Partnership's assessments, both end-of-year and through-course, will include challenging *performance tasks* and *innovative, computer-enhanced items* that elicit complex demonstrations of learning and measure the full range of knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in college and 21st century careers.
- PARCC will be convening Technical Working Groups to focus on Accessibility/ Accommodations/Fairness, Technology Implementation, Automated Scoring, and Innovative Items. Priority areas for the Spring are Accessibility/ Accommodation/Fairness and Technology Implementation.

What support and assistance will be available?



Spring/Summer

- ◇ **Content Frameworks** aligned to common core (PARCC)
- ◇ **Publisher Criteria** (common core writers)
- ◇ **Exemplars** of texts and writing (in addition to the appendices)
- ◇ **Rubrics** for text complexity and writing (common core writers)
- ◇ A **scope and sequence** of the standards that provides guidance on how to chunk key topics quarterly, for each grade (PARCC)
- ◇ **Math Progressions Project** will publish complete progression document
- ◇ **Illinois Summer Institutes** Target Audience: District Teams
- ◇ **Sample unit.** The lead writers are creating an exemplar unit called “Great Conversations” to address writing about what one reads, which is articulated in Common Core writing standard #9 and across the reading standards. The unit will contain 5-6 texts, which will be mainly literary non-fiction, and will show how several texts can be grouped coherently into a unit of study. The exemplar unit will illustrate the type of questions a teacher could ask students about a text and sample student answers that could be provided orally or in writing. This resource should be ready in July.(Common Core Writers)
- ◇ **Visual depiction of how the standards work together.** By early summer, the lead writers will have created a visual depiction of (1) how each of the *reading* standards relate to one another, (2) how each of the *writing* standards relate to one another, and (3) how the *reading* and *writing* standards connect. This graphic is intended to illustrate how standards connect to and reinforce other standards



Fall

- ◇ Priorities for what content should be emphasized at which points in each year (PARCC)
- ◇ Instructional Resource Library (PARCC)
- ◇ Illustrative Math Project - This project will develop a complete set of such tasks for each standard, ranging from easy to difficult, and from simple illustrations of single standards to complex tasks spanning many standards.

