



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Agreement to Maintain Test Security and Confidentiality for District Test Coordinators (DTCs) and School Test Coordinators (STCs) Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), Iowa Assessments (IA), and Performance Tasks Assessment (PTA)

Test security is essential to obtain reliable and valid scores for accountability purposes. Accordingly, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) must take every step to assure the security and confidentiality of the state test materials. District Test Coordinators (DTCs) and School Test Coordinators (STCs) must provide appropriate training for all personnel involved in testing so that they have a common understanding of test security and appropriate testing practices.

Online and Paper Test Administration Manuals (TAMs) for each assessment program provide detailed test security information and administration guidelines. The TAMs and/or other appropriate instructions must be distributed to testing personnel as soon as possible prior to the testing window so that STCs, Test Administrators (TAs), and monitors will have the opportunity to read the appropriate TAM or TAMs and become familiar with test security laws, regulations, and procedures, as well as their responsibilities within the classroom. The Directions for Administration for each assessment may be distributed at the same time as the TAMs but not more than one week in advance of their use.

DTCs must review test security policies and procedures with the STCs and require them to read all appropriate materials and documents provided to them. DTCs and/or STCs must review test security policies and procedures with all TAs, monitors, and any other personnel in the school who will be handling test materials. STCs must require TAs and monitors to read all sections of the TAM(s), the Directions for Administration for each assessment, and all appropriate materials and documents provided to them.

As a DTC or STC, I acknowledge that I will have access to one or more of the following tests that are a part of the South Carolina statewide assessment program: Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), Iowa Assessments (IA), and the South Carolina Performance Tasks Assessment (PTA).

As a DTC, I acknowledge that I have distributed TAMs to the STCs prior to the testing window and have required each STC to read all sections of this manual.

As a DTC, I acknowledge that I have provided a comprehensive training for all STCs that included a discussion of test security policies/procedures and test administration procedures as outlined in the TAM.

As a STC, I acknowledge that I have distributed TAMs and Directions for Administration to the TAs and the monitors prior to the testing window and have required each person involved with testing to read all sections of each manual.

As a STC, I acknowledge that I have provided a comprehensive training for all individuals involved in administering or monitoring the test and/or handling test materials. I further acknowledge that the training provided to the individuals included a discussion of test security policies and test administration procedures as outlined in the TAMs.

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility, as a DTC or STC, to follow all of the state laws and regulations regarding testing ethics and test security.

I acknowledge that I have read the test security laws, regulations, procedures, and other appropriate information provided to me regarding test security and my testing responsibilities.

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility, as a DTC or STC, to follow all of the testing procedures as outlined in the test administration manual and other documents that may be provided to me by the SCDE.

I understand the tests are secure, confidential, and proprietary documents owned by the assessment contractor.

I hereby agree that I will not discuss, disseminate, describe, or otherwise reveal the contents of the tests to anyone.

I will not give examinees access to test questions prior to testing or make answer keys available to examinees.

I will not coach, help, or assist examinees in any way during testing; nor will I alter or interfere with examinees' responses in any way.

I will not keep, copy, or reproduce in any manner inconsistent with the instructions provided by or through the SCDE any part of any secure test materials, including tests, test questions, test content, oral administration scripts, and examinees' responses.

I will return all secure test materials (including, but not limited to, test booklets, answer documents, and test administration directions,) to the DTC or to the assessment contractor, by the required dates.

I will not participate in, direct, aid, counsel, assist in, encourage, or fail to report any of the acts prohibited in the test security laws or this affidavit.

I understand that failure to follow these laws, regulations, or procedures could result in action being taken against my certificate and/or criminal prosecution.

Signature

Date

Print Name

District and School