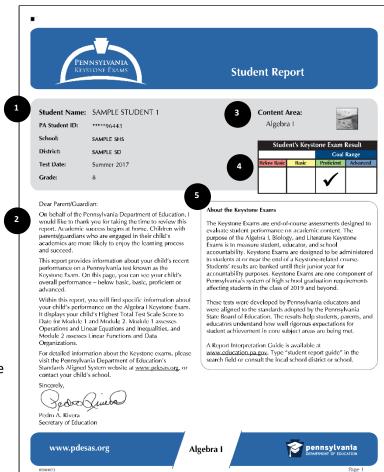# REPORT INTERPRETATION GUIDE
KEYSTONE EXAMS

GUIDE TO READING THE STUDENT REPORT

The Keystone Exams are one component of Pennsylvania's new system of high school graduation requirements for students in the class of 2020 and beyond. Students take the exams toward the end of specific courses, beginning in 2010-2011 for Algebra I, Biology, and Literature.

The Student Report displays how a student performed on each Keystone Exam. This guide helps explain the scores on the student's report. If the student did not take both modules of an exam, part of the report is blank. Remember, these exams are only one measure of the student's growth academically.

DESCRIPTIONS OF PAGE 1 OF THE STUDENT REPORT

1 STUDENT INFORMATION
This section identifies the student's name, school, district, date of testing, and grade.

2 SECRETARY'S GREETING
This letter is from the Secretary of Education and describes content assessed on the Keystone Exam.

3 CONTENT AREA
This is the course or subject matter covered by the Keystone Exam.

4 STUDENT'S KEYSTONE EXAM RESULT
This table indicates the student's performance level on the Keystone Exam.

5 ABOUT THE KEYSTONE EXAMS
This is a brief summary of the Keystone Exams.

6 **PERFORMANCE LEVEL ON TOTAL TEST**
The arrow points to the student's performance level for the total Keystone Exam.

Note: If the student was not tested or did not receive a total score, an arrow pointing to the performance level is not displayed.

7 **STUDENT'S SCORE**
The Highest Total Test Scale Score to Date indicates the student's scale score for the total test. Additionally, the arrow on the bar graph indicates where the student's score falls within a performance level.

Because each content area has its own individual scale, the student's Keystone Exam scores should not be compared across content areas.

8 **MINIMUM/MAXIMUM SCALE SCORES**
The minimum and maximum scale scores represent the minimum and maximum scores a student could earn. Each Keystone Exam has a minimum and maximum score that stays the same across years. The Proficient score is set at 1500 for all exams.

DESCRIPTIONS OF PAGE 2 OF THE STUDENT REPORT (CONTINUED)

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STANDARD ERROR OF MEASURE
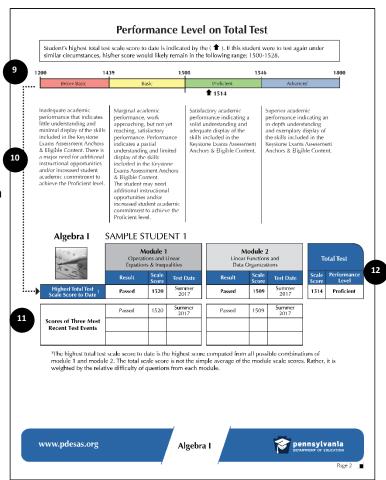This range reflects the standard error of measurement (SEM) for the student's Keystone Exam score. Specifically, it provides a reasonable range of scores that the student might receive if he or she took an equivalent version of the exam. (In other words, the student took an exam that covered exactly the *same* content, but included a *different* set of items.) For example, if the Keystone Exam score is 1750 and the SEM range is 1700 to 1800, then the student would be likely to score somewhere between 1700 and 1800 if a different version of the exam is taken under similar conditions.

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MEANING OF PERFORMANCE LEVELS
This section provides a general description of the Pennsylvania performance levels. Student performance on the Keystone Exams falls into one of four performance levels: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced.

Performance Level on Total Test

Student's highest total test scale score to date is indicated by the (⬆). If this student were to test again under similar circumstances, his/her score would likely remain in the following range: 1500-1528.

1200	1439	1500	1546	1800
Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced	

⬆ 1514

Inadequate academic performance that indicates little understanding and minimal display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors & Eligible Content. There is a major need for additional instructional opportunities and/or increased student academic commitment to achieve the Proficient level.

Marginal academic performance, work approaching, but not yet reaching, satisfactory performance. Performance indicates a partial understanding and limited display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors & Eligible Content. The student may need additional instructional opportunities and/or increased student academic commitment to achieve the Proficient level.

Satisfactory academic performance indicating a solid understanding and adequate display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors & Eligible Content.

Superior academic performance indicating an in-depth understanding and exemplary display of the skills included in the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors & Eligible Content.

Algebra I   SAMPLE STUDENT 1

	Module 1 Operations and Linear Equations & Inequalities			Module 2 Linear Functions and Data Organizations			Total Test	
	Result	Scale Score	Test Date	Result	Scale Score	Test Date	Scale Score	Performance Level
Highest Total Test Scale Score to Date [1]	Passed	1520	Summer 2017	Passed	1509	Summer 2017	1514	Proficient
Scores of Three Most Recent Test Events	Passed	1520	Summer 2017	Passed	1509	Summer 2017		

[1]The highest total test scale score to date is the highest score computed from all possible combinations of module 1 and module 2. The total scale score is not the simple average of the module scale scores. Rather, it is weighted by the relative difficulty of questions from each module.

www.pdesas.org   Algebra I   pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE IN EACH MODULE
This section indicates the student's performance within each module. It provides the assessment anchors covered in each module. Additionally, it identifies the result, scale score, and date of testing for each module and test event.

Note: Students do not need to pass both modules in order to score Proficient on the exam.

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STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE FOR TOTAL TEST
This section indicates the student's scale score and performance level for the total test. The scale score for the total test reflects the highest score computed as the combination of the two highest module scores. Because modules contain varying item content and difficulty, the total scale score may not equal the average of the modules. Students taking the Keystone Exam for the first time must take both modules in order to receive a total test scale score.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE KEYSTONE EXAMS

CONTENT COVERED ON THE KEYSTONE EXAMS

Each Keystone Exam is organized into two major reporting categories known as modules. Each module is organized around specific assessment anchors and eligible content within a content area. Assessment anchors and eligible content are statements that clarify the standards assessed on each Keystone Exam and serve as one tool to align curriculum, instruction, and assessment. All questions on the Keystone Exams are aligned to the Keystone Exams Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content, which can be found on the SAS website at www.pdesas.org/Standard/Views.

FORMATS FOR THE KEYSTONE EXAMS

The Keystone Exams are available in both online and paper/pencil formats. Districts determine whether online, paper/pencil, or both formats are used locally.

TYPES OF QUESTIONS ON THE KEYSTONE EXAMS

The Keystone Exams include multiple-choice questions and constructed-response, or open-ended, questions. For each Keystone Exam, approximately 60% to 75% of the total score is from multiple-choice questions and 25% to 40% of the total score is from constructed-response questions.

PROCESS FOR REPORTING RESULTS

Two copies of the individual student report for all Keystone Exams are sent to each school district and charter school for distribution to parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and/or principals. School districts and charter schools may publish the results of the Keystone Exams school-level reports.