

AIMS Cycle of Test Development

- Educators are selected from all over Arizona to serve on content standards development and AIMS committees.
- Grade-level standards are created by Arizona educators and adopted by the State Board of Education.
- Arizona educators develop AIMS test blueprints.
- Item Specifications for AIMS assessments are created by Arizona educators to provide appropriate, consistent interpretation of the content standards.



The test development cycle begins again.



- The test company commissions reading passages, and Arizona educators review the passages for content, bias, and cultural sensitivity.
- Arizona educators create prompts for the writing assessments and develop items for reading, mathematics, and science assessments.
- The test company performs the first review of all prompts and items for content, bias, and cultural sensitivity.



- Assessments are printed, ordered, and sent to districts and charter organizations.
- The AIMS assessments are taken by students throughout Arizona and upon completion are sent back to the test company.
- The test company scores the assessments and reports the results.



- Arizona educators review prompts and items for proper alignment to the standards, appropriate and accurate content, and bias and cultural sensitivity.
- Arizona educators determine which prompts and items to field test.
- The test company performs the second review of all prompts and items for content, bias, and cultural sensitivity.



- The test company's research department reviews the statistics of the prompts and items selected to ensure the quality, validity, and reliability of all AIMS assessments.
- The test company arranges items for Second Pages, Confirming Copies, and Blueines.
- The Arizona Department of Education reviews Second Pages, Confirming Copies, and Blueines.



- The test company's content editors review selected field test prompts and items.
- Arizona educators analyze item data and select operational items for the next AIMS administrations.
- The Arizona Department of Education reviews the data from previously field tested writing prompts and selects the operational prompts to be used on the next AIMS administrations.