

## PEAKS Practice Tests

### ***AKA: Online Tools Training (OTT)***



## Quick Guide

The Online Tools Training (OTT), or practice tests, for the PEAKS computer-based assessment is designed to provide students a hands-on opportunity to experience the test environment. Students can navigate through a “test”, practice using test-taking tools and try out different technology-enhanced items.

School districts should provide students the opportunity to use the OTT. Students should be familiar with navigating the test environment prior to testing so they can focus on the content of the test and confidently demonstrate their knowledge of the Alaska standards.

OTT is accessible to students, educators, parents and the community. Parents are encouraged to use the OTT and see what kinds of item types their student will be answering and the variety of online tools available to support testing. Test questions are not scored, and answers are not saved.

1. **Google CHROME** is the **ONLY** browser that is available for PEAKS OTT (practice tests). ASD devices have Chrome installed. Home devices should visit Google for assistance with Chrome.
2. Copy and paste the following link into Google Chrome, ***<https://wbte.drcedirect.com/AK/portals/ak>***
3. Select Online Tools Training.



### ***ALSO! PEAKS Student Tutorials***

The ***PEAKS Student Tutorials*** are web-based videos that introduce the computer-based testing system. The tutorials use age-appropriate sample test items, animation, audio and closed captioning to describe the testing tools and navigation through the test engine. The tutorials are available to anyone with the link and viewable on most browsers.

1. Copy and paste the following link into a web browser, <http://tinyurl.com/z4mndrc>
2. Select the content area of your choice.

***A complete list of online (embedded within the test) universal tools and accommodations is found on the second page of this document.***

For more information about the PEAKS assessment:

State of Alaska's PEAKS webpage: ***<https://education.alaska.gov/tls/assessments/peaks.html>***

The ASD PEAKS webpage: ***<http://www.asdk12.org/peaks/>***

The ASD staff Support Central PEAKS website (requires ASD login credentials: ***<https://share.asdk12.org/support/default.aspx>***)

# Student Supports on the Computer-Based Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) Assessment for Spring 2017

The below tables show embedded student supports for the computer-based Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) assessment to be administered in spring 2017. Student supports have been placed into two categories: Universal Tools and Accommodations.

## Universal Tools

Universal Tools are supports or preferences that are available to all students taking the computer-based PEAKS assessment. Universal Tools are available at all times and their use is based on student choice, need and preference. These tools do not alter the test "construct" (what the test is measuring) or change the reliability or validity of the assessment. Universal Tools do not change score interpretation. Similarly, Universal Tools require no additional test security measures. Universal Tools do not need to be activated; they are automatically available to the student.

## Accommodations

Accommodations are practices and procedures that provide equitable access and are used regularly and with success during instruction and assessments to students with disabilities and English Learners (ELs). Accommodations do not alter the validity of the assessment, score interpretation, reliability or security of the assessment. Accommodations must be made available to students with disabilities with an IEP or 504 plan, students with transitory impairments, and EL students, as documented in student plans. If an accommodation is not used in instruction, do not use it for testing. For most students, unfamiliar accommodations negatively impact performance on assessments.

Table 1. Embedded Universal Tools

Universal Tool		Description
Calculators	Basic	Available only for select items on the math content assessment for grades 6-10.
	Scientific	Available only for select items on the math content assessment for grades 7-8.
	Graphing	Available only for select items on the math content assessment for grades 9-10.
Color Overlay		Changes the background color behind text, graphics, and response areas.
Color Contrast / Reverse Contrast		Students can choose from options to changes background color and text.
Line Guide		A movable, straightedge line used to follow along with each line of text.
Highlighter		Highlight a portion of text or a graphic.
Magnification, whole screen		Student can magnify/enlarge the entire screen, including all text, images, and objects, for better viewing.
Masking		Student can cover up (mask) content on the screen.
Sticky Note		Creates and places a note (or multiple notes) on the screen in which a student can type a short message for later reference.
Strikethrough		Cross out/eliminate a multiple-choice answer selection(s)

Table 2. Embedded Accommodations

Accommodation	Description
Text-to-Speech for ELA, math, and science	Allows students to start, stop, or replay computer audio of the test associated with the content on the screen for all content areas. <b>NOTE: Text-to-Speech does NOT read the passages associated with ELA reading items.</b>