

A New Scoring Option for 3-8 Testing

Written response scoring is a new scoring process to help districts save time and resources when grading written or “extended” response questions on the New York State 3-8 assessments.

Scoring is conducted by certified NYS teachers who undergo extensive training prior to scoring to ensure that they are comfortable with the scoring rubric and process. Student responses are digitally scanned, then presented and scored on a computer screen. The workflow is organized so scorers remain focused on responses to a single question from all students.

Historically, 3-8 assessments were scored by classroom teachers in-district. This scoring method provided an opportunity for the district to embed professional development in the scoring process by facilitating conversations around instructional methods, curriculum, and standards. New scoring requirements led many districts to regional scoring; a process where districts convene to score each other’s exams. The professional development component is diminished, but the process ensures that teachers are not scoring exams for students they have a vested interest in. To recapture lost instructional and professional development time, districts are now looking to the new written response scoring model.

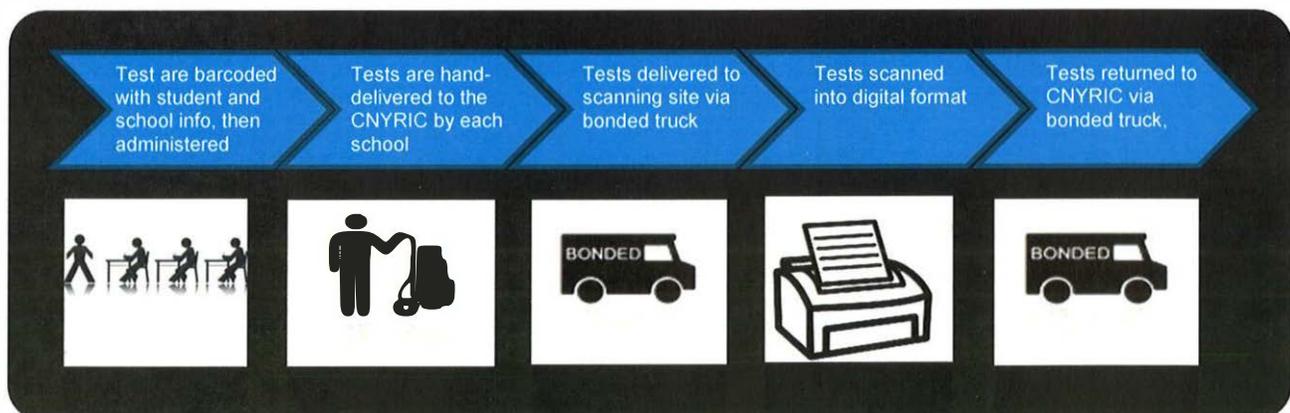
Written Response Scoring Eliminates:

- Time spent planning, coordinating, and managing scoring sessions.
- Operational costs for setting up and running scoring sessions.
- The need to hire substitutes to cover classes while teachers score assessments.
- Overtime pay for teachers who are scoring.
- The loss of valuable instructional time!



OSC, our vendor partner, scored over 984,000 tests last year!
[flip to learn more...]

How the Process Works



The Process Explained

- Prior to test administration, the district places a barcode (provided by the CNYRIC) on every test booklet in designated area.
- Test booklets are hand delivered, at scheduled time, by a school representative to OSC at the CNYRIC. School representative remains at the drop-off location until all boxes and tests have been verified and counted.
- Tests are counted, student IDs wanded into a database and made available for review on the Barcode Check-In Audit website. Districts confirm that all test booklets are accounted for.
- A unique barcoded Box Label is placed on each box identifying the district, school and grade contents of the box.
- Test booklets are counted and counts are checked against the counts listed on the box label affixed to the top of each box. Boxes are sealed and designated for delivery. Upon delivery to the scanning site each box is designated as being received.
- OSC prepares test booklets for scanning into digital images that scorers can read and rate on the computer. Test booklets that cannot be scanned (braille, large print, etc) are moved to another box to facilitate hand scoring.
- Read behinds are conducted for each scorer in the following manner:
 - The 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th items read and after that it's 10% of every scorer
 - This method is used to catch a scorer that may have misunderstood the Rubric training at the onset of their scoring. As necessary scorers are pulled, re-trained and put back into the scoring pool.
 - OSC also watches and rates all scorers by question to make sure the scorer isn't scoring too high or too low. Re-training will occur in this instance as well.
- Test booklets remain with their grade and class sets and are put back into their individual school boxes after scanning. The boxes are sent to the scoring site and then returned to the CNYRIC.



OSC was founded in 1991 when they developed data capture software unlike anything available on the market at the time. The company patented their "Image Mark Recognition (IMR)" technology which was able to capture and interpret data automatically from all forms including damaged or torn surveys. It was capable of distinguishing cross-outs, erasures, and stray marks from "real marks." IMR technology offered better than 99% accuracy in the capture of data. The software is utilized by a number of industry leaders and was used to process the US Census in 2000 and 2010.

OSC entered the field of education when they opened an Education Division to adapt its proprietary software for electronic scoring of assessment tests. In 2007, they introduced the Educational Assessment Scanning Environment (EASE) software. That same year, OSC processed the Cleveland Benchmark Testing Program for the Cleveland Municipal School District. In 2008, they processed the New Jersey Proficiency Assessment for more than 100 New Jersey School Districts. In 2009, the Long Beach New York School District as well as, Yonkers and 14 school districts in Nassau County contracted with OSC to process the NYS 3-8 answer documents.

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