



Grade 3 Student Learning Assessment (SLA) Quick Facts for Parents/Guardians

What are SLAs?

SLAs are a digitally based provincial assessment that provides a beginning of the year “check in.” This enables parents/guardians and teachers to learn about and identify student strengths and areas for growth at the start of the school year. The Grade 3 SLA is based on outcomes related to literacy and numeracy in language arts and mathematics in Alberta’s current Grade 2 provincial programs of study. Some sets of questions are created using topics that may be familiar to students from other subject areas such as arts education, health, science, and social studies.

What are the purposes of the SLAs?

The purposes of the SLAs are to:

- improve student learning (primary purpose);
- enhance instruction for students.

Provincial assessment programs, including SLAs, are meant to complement, not replace, day-to-day teacher observations and classroom assessment.

What is the structure of the Grade 3 SLA?

This literacy and numeracy assessment consists of digital interactive questions (marked by Alberta Education) and performance tasks (marked locally):

- digital interactive literacy questions;
- a literacy performance task;
- digital interactive numeracy questions;
- a numeracy performance task.

Who will participate in the SLA?

The SLA is primarily intended for students beginning Grade 3. It can also be administered to students who are ending Grade 2. The decision as to who will participate is at the teacher’s discretion.

Will my child need to study for the Grade 3 SLA?

Your child does not need to study to do this assessment. However, students should be familiar with using a computer or similar technology.

Are there any practice questions my child can do before the Grade 3 SLA?

Yes. Students can try out the practice questions and released questions that are located at <https://public.education.alberta.ca/assessment/>.

What are the important dates for the 2017–2018 Grade 3 SLA?

The Grade 3 SLA is available to teachers to administer from August 14, 2017, to June 29, 2018. Parents/guardians can access their child's results, including a parent/guardian-friendly report, via their child's teacher. Schools are expected to share students' Grade 3 SLA results with students' parents/guardians.

Teachers and parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss students' Grade 3 SLA results together, as professional teachers are in the best position to interpret the results.

Whom should I contact if I have questions about the Grade 3 SLA?

More information and resources for the Grade 3 SLA are available on the:

- [Alberta School Councils' Association](http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/) website at <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>;
- [Alberta Education](http://education.alberta.ca) website at <http://education.alberta.ca>.

The personal information collected in the Student Learning Assessment is collected pursuant to section 33(c) of the **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act** (RSA 2000, C. F-25). This information will be used for the purpose of administering the Student Learning Assessment as well as support programs and policy evaluation and measurement.

For questions regarding the program and the collection, use and disclosure of information:

For English-language SLAs, you may contact Nicole Lamarre, Director of Student Learning Assessments and Provincial Achievement Testing, Alberta Education, at Nicole.Lamarre@gov.ab.ca or by telephone at 780-427-6204.

For French-language SLAs, you may contact Gilbert Guimont, French Assessment Director, at Gilbert.Guimont@gov.ab.ca or by telephone at 780-422-3535.

Call 310-0000 for toll-free access within Alberta.