



Grade 3 Student Learning Assessment (SLA) Quick Facts for Teachers

Before the Administration

What resources should I consult when preparing for the Grade 3 Student Learning Assessment (Grade 3 SLA)?

Depending on your preferences, you can choose to read through the SLA User Guide, or you can view the quick tips videos that explain the following.

- How to access the teacher dashboard
- How to use the teacher dashboard
- How to use some promising practices for SLAs

These resources are available online at

<https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/everyone/sla-quick-tip-videos/>.

How do I know what is being assessed?

Detailed information about the types of questions, the format of the assessment, practice and released questions, etc. are in the Literacy and Numeracy Information Bulletin located at

<https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/>.

Are there any practice digital interactive questions my students can do before the Grade 3 SLA?

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

This will help familiarize your students with the interactivity of the digital questions and it provides opportunity for schools to check if their computer technology meets the technical requirements for administering the SLA.

Are there practice performance tasks my student can do before the Grade 3 SLA?

Both the literacy and numeracy performance tasks include a short presentation that is projected on a screen. Teacher Administration Guides provide step-by-step guidance through the discussions and activities. We recommend that each performance task be administered during two or more sessions. All of the materials that you need to administer and assess the performance tasks are available on the Teacher Dashboard. Sample performance tasks which were used in previous years of the Pilot are available online at <http://education.alberta.ca/department/ipr/slas/support/>.

The SLA will be available for full administration (including teacher preview) and re-administration from late August, 2018, to June 28, 2019.

How can I preview the assessment questions?

Teachers can access the teacher preview and full administration of the digital questions and the performance tasks from late August, 2018, to June 28, 2019, through the SLA application. Assessment questions can be accessed on the "Assessment Preview" page via the left-hand menu of the teacher dashboard.

Can students have accommodations or assistive supports?

To ensure accessibility, Student Learning Assessments have been designed to incorporate as many assistive supports as possible. For example, the option to change the font on each question is available. In Numeracy, audio is available for instructions, sources, questions, and alternatives. In Literacy, audio is available for instructions and some sources and questions. Please refer to the [General Information Bulletin](https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/about-the-slas/everyone/general-information-bulletin/) (<https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/about-the-slas/everyone/general-information-bulletin/>) for assistive support guidelines.

During the Administration

When is the Grade 3 SLA administration period?

The Grade 3 SLA will be available for administration starting late August, 2018, to June 28, 2019. Participating teachers are encouraged to use the SLA as soon as possible to maximize the value of this beginning-of-the-year assessment.

The Grade 3 SLA will be available to teachers to re-administer at their discretion throughout the school year to further support learning and instruction.

How long does it take to complete the Grade 3 SLA?

There is no time limit on any part of the Grade 3 SLA. The following table breaks down the suggested administration time for each part of the SLA.

Part of the Student Learning Assessment	Suggested Administration Time
Digital Literacy Questions (45 questions)	About 60 minutes
Literacy Performance Task (4 activities)	About 60-90 minutes
Digital Numeracy Questions (39 questions)	About 60 minutes
Numeracy Performance Task (2 activities)	About 60 minutes

Each part of the SLA can be administered in several short sessions and on different days.

What do I do if a student in my class is unable to write the SLA during the administration period?

Teachers can identify excused students to Alberta Education via the SLA Teacher Dashboard using the status “not participating”

For information on how to change a student’s status, see the [SLA User Guide](https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/everyone/sla-client-services-help-desk/) (<https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/everyone/sla-client-services-help-desk/>).

Where do students log in to take the SLA?

Students can log in from <https://public.education.alberta.ca/assessment> and choose “Start Assessment” from the “Assessments” section.

Whom do I contact for technical support?

During the SLA administration, ensure you have access to technical and administrative support within your school (e.g., IT staff, teacher aides, readers, and so on).

For immediate support please call the Workforce Development Help Desk.

Telephone: 780-427-5318

Toll-free within Alberta: 310-0000

Email: WFDhelpdesk@gov.ab.ca

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 8:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The office is open during the lunch hour.

After the Administration

Who marks the Grade 3 SLA?

The digital interactive questions will be marked by Alberta Education. The performance tasks will be marked locally by teachers. The results of the performance task will not be sent to Alberta Education.

What is the format of the Grade 3 SLA digital report and when will it be available?

The following digital reports will be available within 24 hours of a class completing all digital questions via the SLA Teacher Dashboard for teachers and school administrators:

- **Class Reports (Digital Questions)**
These reports will contain detailed information including individual questions, student responses, performance level, the outcome, and the literacy/numeracy assessed by each question.
A sample Class Report can be accessed at <https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/everyone/sla-resources/>.
- **Sample Student Summary and Parent/Guardian-Friendly/Individual Student Reports (Digital Questions)** Teachers may also access a parent/guardian-friendly/individual student report that can be printed and distributed to parents/guardians.
A sample Student Summary and Parent/Guardian-Friendly/Individual Student Report can be accessed at <https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/resources/everyone/sla-resources/>.

Both the Individual Student Reports and the Class Reports are printable via the SLA Teacher Dashboard. If the SLAs are re-administered to individual students, updated reports will be available via the SLA Teacher Dashboard.

How do parents/guardians access their child's results?

Parents/guardians will be able to access their child's results via their child's school. Teachers are encouraged to share students' Grade 3 SLA individual results with students' parents/guardians. Interpretation of results is best accomplished through conversation between parents/guardians, student and teacher. As such, teachers and parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss students' Grade 3 SLA results together. Alberta Education will work with school authorities to help them address any challenges in providing parents/guardians with their children's results.



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

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.

Where else can I find additional information on the SLA?

Additional information is available at <https://education.alberta.ca/student-learning-assessments/about-the-slas/>.