

Quick Facts for Teachers

Grade 3 Student Learning Assessment (SLA)

Before the administration

Resources used to prepare for the 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
- Promising practices for SLAs

Please review the *SLA Technical Requirements*, which outlines the minimum software requirements for the administration of the SLA.

What is being assessed

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

Practice digital interactive questions

Students can try out the practice digital interactive questions and released digital interactive questions that are located on the [SLA application](#).

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

Practice performance tasks

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, as well as released performance tasks, are available on the Teacher Dashboard through the [SLA application](#).

Preview of the assessment questions

Teachers can access the teacher preview on or after August 19, 2019 through the SLA application. Assessment questions can be accessed on the “Assessment Preview” page via the left-hand menu of the teacher dashboard.

Accommodations or assistive supports for students

To ensure accessibility, SLAs have been designed to incorporate as many assistive supports as possible. For example, there is an option to change the font on each question. 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*, located on the SLA web page, for assistive support guidelines.

During the administration

The SLA administration period

The administration window of the digital questions and the performance tasks is September 9 to October 7, 2019. Following the full administration window, teachers can re-administer the SLA components. Participating teachers are encouraged to use the SLA as soon as possible to maximize the value of this beginning-of-the-year assessment.

Administration time to complete the SLA

There is no time limit on any part of the 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

Teachers may administer select parts of the SLAs. These parts can be administered in several short sessions and on different days.

Students excused from participating in the SLA

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*.

Student log in for the SLA

Students can log into the [SLA application](#) and choose “Start Assessment” from the “Assessments” section.

Technical support contact information

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

Marking of the 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 tasks will not be sent to Alberta Education.

Format and availability of the SLA digital reports

The following digital reports will be available within 24 hours of a teacher submitting digital questions for marking 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.
- Individual Student Reports (Digital Questions)
These reports will contain detailed information that are parent/guardian-friendly/individual student reports that can be printed and distributed to parents/guardians.
- Sample Reports can be accessed on the *SLA web page*.

Both the Class Reports and the Individual Student 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.

Parents/guardians access of their child's results

Parents/guardians will be able to access their child's results via their child's school. Teachers are expected to discuss students' individual SLA results with the parents/guardians. Interpretation of results is best accomplished through conversation between the parents/guardians, the student, and the teacher.

Contact 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.

Information and resources

Additional information is available on the [SLA web page](#).