

## Responses to Questions from Potential Bidder, Alpine Testing, for 3<sup>rd</sup>-Party Validity Study

1. Given the Memorial Day holiday, would the electronic submission of proposals by the 5:00 ET deadline on May 26<sup>th</sup> be acceptable?

Yes, however mailed responses need to be received by 1 PM on Wednesday, May 27, 2015.

2. How many items are in the pool or bank for each ELA, Mathematics, and EOC assessment?

The tables below provide the approximate number of items on each test. Approximately 6-10 items on each test are field test items and are not used to calculate students' scores. The random sample of 200 items for third-party inspection will be drawn from operational test items that will be used to determine student scores. The sample of 200 items represents approximately 20% of the total pool of operational items.

Mathematics Assessments	
Grade/Course	Number of Items
3	60-64
4	60-64
5	60-64
6	62-66
7	62-66
8	62-66
Algebra 1	64-68
Algebra 2	64-68
Geometry	64-68

English/Language Arts Assessments	
Grade/Course	Number of Items
3	56-60
4	56-60
5	56-60
6	58-62
7	58-62
8	58-62
9	60-64
10	60-64

Students in Grades 4-10 also responded to a text-based writing prompt that was combined with the other ELA assessments to generate a combined ELA score.

**3. Will the test vendor (AIR) make its technical manual and related technical reports available for review during the contract period?**

Upon selection of the entity to conduct the validity study, AIR will provide the entity all necessary specification documents and access to working papers relevant to all aspects of the assessment. Any other existing technical documentation created or used by FDOE will also be made available to the third-party entity. Staff working for the third-party entity will be required to sign non-disclosure agreements to protect aspects of the documentation and test content that are subject to confidentiality requirements under the test security statute (s. 1008.24, Florida Statutes), and State Board Rule 6A-10.042.

**4. What external technology audits or reviews (e.g., penetration testing) has the vendor undergone during its contract with Florida?**

AIR is currently in the process of contracting for an external technology audit that will be performed in the coming months. AIR will provide the third party entity performing the validation study with any appropriate information requested related to the test system architecture and security.

**5. What are the test vendor's (AIR's) responsibilities with respect to participation and cooperation in the independent verification activities?**

AIR, as well as FDOE program staff, is prepared to fully cooperate with the entity selected to conduct the validity study. Program managers and staff for both organizations are fully aware of the nature and scope of the study, and have committed to providing all necessary information and will answer any questions in a timely manner in order for the entity to complete its work by the September 1 deadline, if not sooner.