

# Assessment and Accountability

## RISE Testing

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of Operations

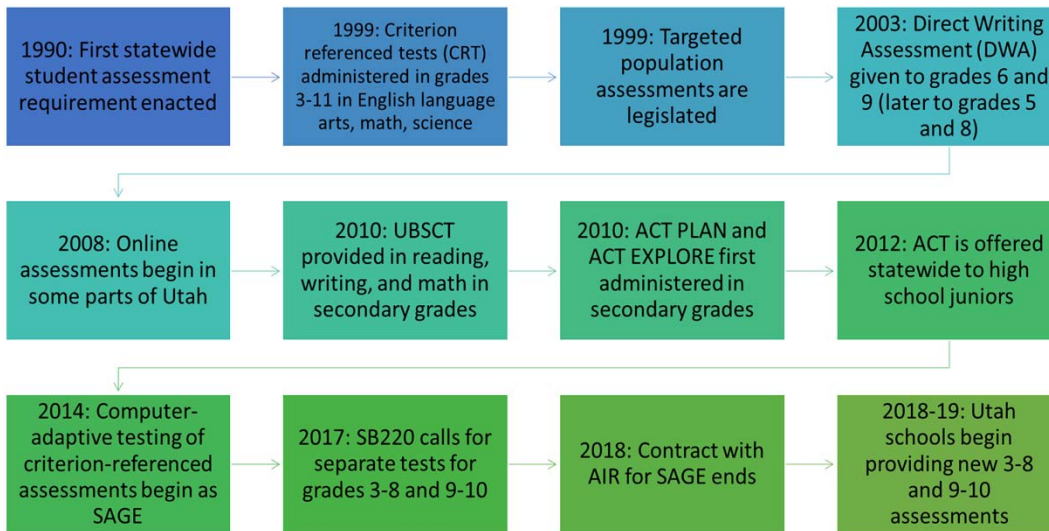
Darin Nielsen  
Assistant Superintendent  
of Student Learning

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## Testing in Utah: Historical Overview



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## Legislative context for grades 3-8:

### 53E-4-303 Utah Standards Assessments

The Board shall adopt a standards assessments that:

- (i) measures a student's proficiency in:
  - (A) mathematics for students in each of grades 3-8;
  - (B) English language arts for students in each of grades 3-8;
  - (C) science for students in each of grades 4 through 8; and
  - (D) writing for students in at least grades 5 and 8;

*(Criterion referenced, aligned with core standards, administered online, computer adaptive)*

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## RISE is composed of two primary elements

The Assessments  
(Benchmark, Interim, Summative)

- a. Utah written questions
- b. Aligned to Utah Core
- c. Utah proficiency thresholds
- d. 5 yrs of comparative data

The delivery platform  
(Nextera)

- a. Interface
- b. Software
- c. Servers
- d. Reports

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The acquisition of the state standards assessment consisted of three primary phases

1. Procurement

2. Contract Development

3. Implementation

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## Procurement

Date	Activity
March 3, 2017	RFP released, in accordance with procurement code
April 24, 2017	RFP Closed with four proposals received
October 13, 2017	USBE notified vendors of procurement award – Questar selected

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### American Institutes for Research (AIR)

- Disclosed five incidents

### Performance Matters

- Was eliminated for not meeting the mandatory minimum requirements

### Pearson

- Disclosed four incidents plus one with a partner company

### Questar

- Disclosed zero incidents but three with their parent company.

*The publicized incidents in other states all occurred after the disclosure period.*

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## Contract Development

The contract provides the USBE the ability to:

1. Terminate for cause or convenience.
2. Assess liquidated damages (defined as a contractual provision that determines in advance the measure of damages if a party breaches the agreement).
3. Seek other remedies

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## Contract Development

Date	Activity
October 14, 2017	USBE staff begin working with Questar to finalize the SOW and develop the associated contract
February 8, 2018	USBE approved the final contract
February 9, 2018	USBE/Questar sign the approved \$41,565,145 contract
Subsequent months	Two contract amendments were signed, totaling \$3,193,176.50

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## Contract Development

Minimum Mandatory Requirements	RFP Section	Evaluation (Pass/Fail)
I Minimum Experience	MM	
II Evidence of Alignment	MM	
III Resumes	MM	
IV Protection of Student Level Data	MM	
V Functioning Product	MM	
VI System Samples	MM	
VII Disclosure	MM	
VIII Travel Policy	MM	

The RFP scoring committee considered multiple elements in identifying the best solution for Utah.

Scoreable Technical Criteria (Technical Evaluation Points)	RFP Section	Evaluator Score (1-5)	Criteria Weight	% of Tech Criteria	Points Possible	Points Earned	Minimum Required
I Development	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
II Delivery	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
III Scoring	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
IV Data Management and Exchanges	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
V Reporting	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
VI Technical Manual	TC		10	7.1%	50.0	0.0	
VII Project Management	TC		20	14.3%	100.0	0.0	
VIII References	TC		10	7.1%	50.0	0.0	
				<b>100.0%</b>	<b>700.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Required Technical Point Threshold	RFP Section	Min Percent	Min Points Required	Points Earned	Percent Earned	Evaluation
	EVAL	70%	490.0	0.0	0.0%	

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## Implementation Timeline

Transition Planning meeting with USBE and Questar staff  
**Dec 13, 2017**

Two day kickoff meeting with USBE and Questar staff  
**Jan 25-26, 2018**

**Jan 24, 2018**  
Vendor Handoff Planning meeting between AIR and Questar staff, facilitated by USBE

**Feb 13, 2018**  
Weekly calls begin (content, technology, data, reporting)

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Item writing workshop for ELA, mathematics, and science  
**Jun 11-13, 2018**

Content & bias review  
**Sept 17-19, 2018**

RISE annual planning meeting  
**Nov 27-28, 2018**

**Sept 12-13, 2018**  
Nextera training for LEA representatives

**Oct 22-25 2018**  
Parent review of newly written items

**April 29-May 9 2018**  
USBE and Questar observe 50 testing sessions in 32 schools

Continued Implementation Timeline

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## Implementation Problems

Questar experiences problems in Tennessee  
– USBE requested response  
**April 27, 2018**

Questar was unable to deliver formative tools  
**Oct 1, 2018**

USBE staff provide Questar a list of identified concerns  
**Nov 8, 2018**

**Sept 18, 2018**  
USBE staff meet with Questar project leadership regarding various concerns

**Nov 1, 2018**  
Questar was unable to deliver winter summative tests

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Questar agrees to providing additional resource to resolve rostering issues  
**Nov 27, 2018**

USBE provides Questar an assessment readiness checklist  
**DEC 21, 2018**

**DEC 17, 2018**  
Questar provides assurances they are taking the necessary steps to deliver a fully operational assessment system (response to USBE concerns)

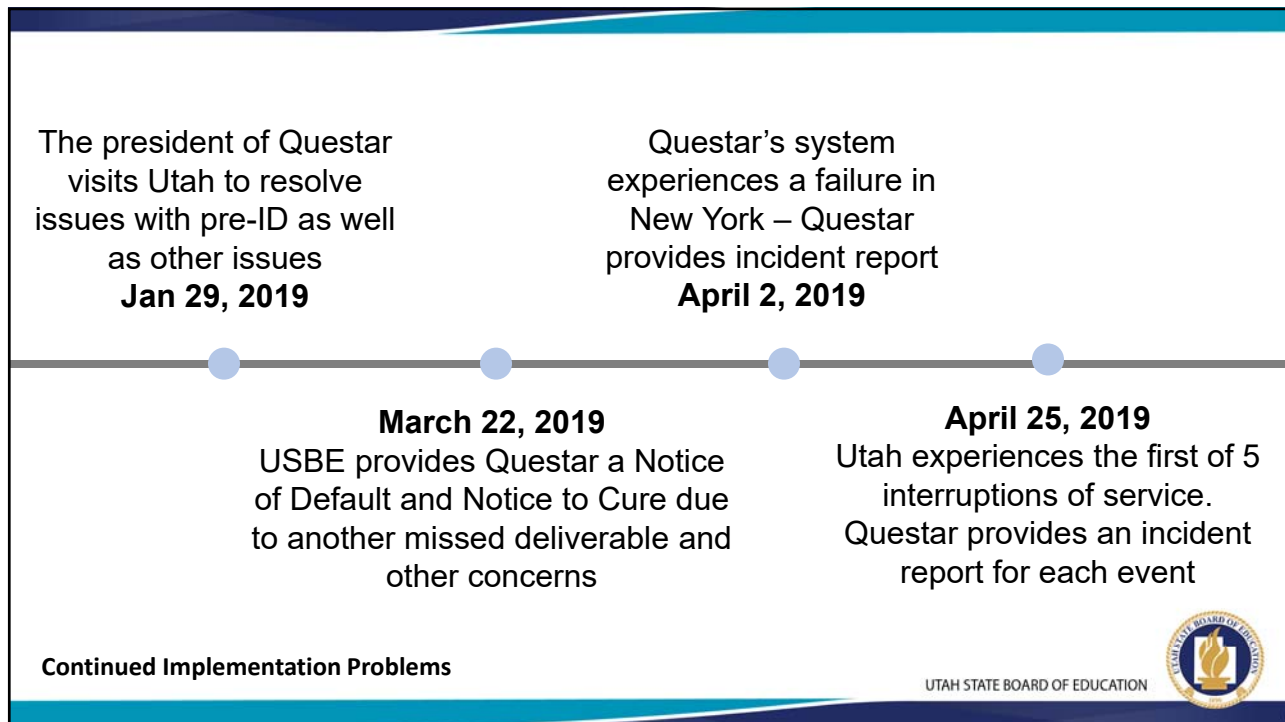
**Jan 9, 2019**  
USBE arrange for a call with Questar senior leadership to address ongoing issues with the Pre-ID files.

Continued Implementation Problems

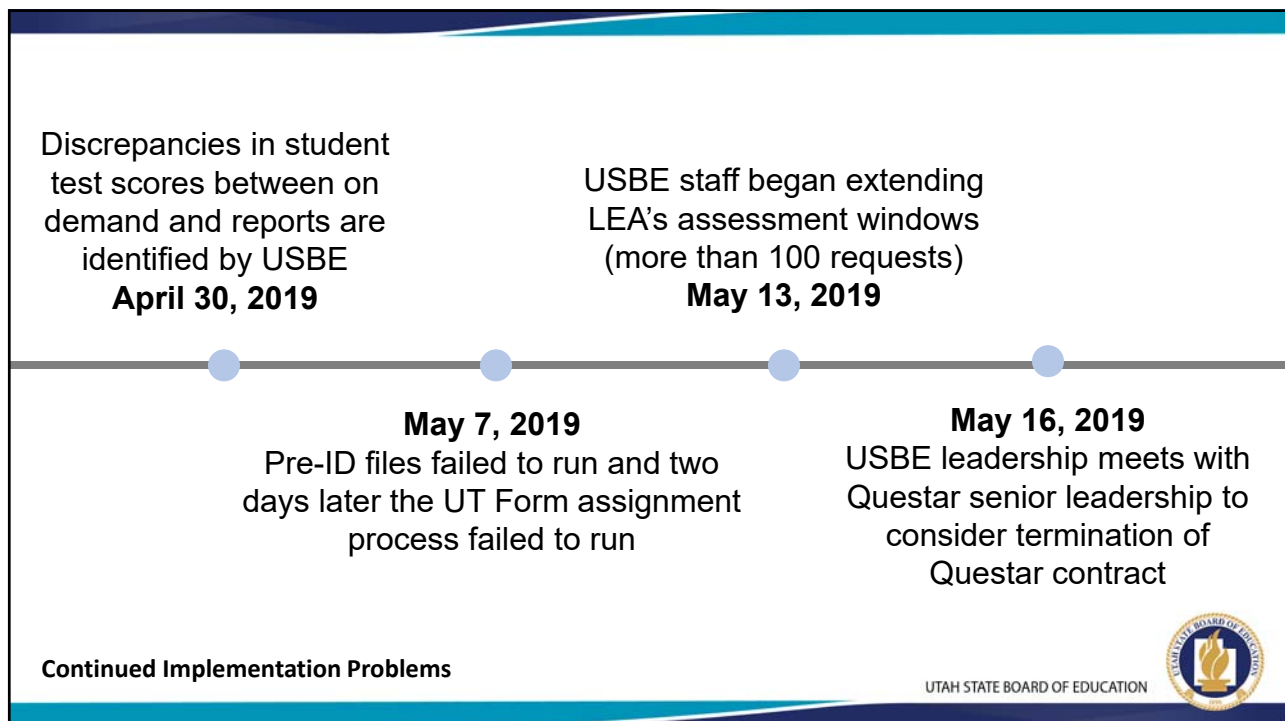
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**May 17, 2019**

**Questar notifies USBE that some students tests were inadvertently reset – number unknown**

- Questar Identifies June 14, 2019 as date that fixes for various problems will be implemented.
- Inadvertent test reset corrections
- Math Grade 6 test resets completed
- Test participation code “bug” fixes
- Other outstanding issues include:
  - Individual student score reports not correct
  - Above grade level test administration not working

**Continued Implementation Problems**

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**Assessment Data**

Questar scheduled to provide USBE the final assessment data file  
**July 15, 2019**

USBE and Questar complete ELA standards validation  
**July 29-30, 2019**

**July 2019**  
USBE conducts an analysis to determine the effects of assessment changes on calculating student growth

**Aug 1, 2019**  
Questar provides USBE the results of their impact study (validated by independent third party)

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USBE staff holds Technical Advisory Committee to review analysis results and prepare recommendation  
**Aug 12, 2019**

USBE considers data analysis and makes any related decisions  
**Sept 5, 2019**

**Aug 2019**  
Assessment and Accountability Policy Advisory Committee reviews the TAC recommendations.

**Dec 1, 2019**  
USBE publishes 2019 School Report Card

Continued Assessment Data

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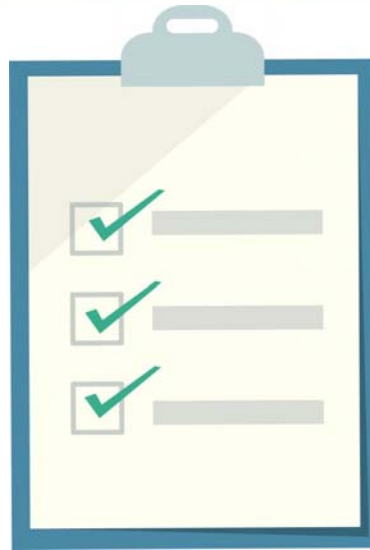
## 2019 Assessment costs

Assessment	Cost Per Student
DIBELS (Reading)	Amplify = \$12.00 DMG = \$1.00
RISE & Aspire Plus	\$24.00 (approximate)
ACT	\$51.00
Alternate	\$97.00
WIDA	\$28.00 (online administration)

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See handout for additional detail related to assessment costs



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