

PLTW Glossary of Assessment Terms

Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs) – ALDs are descriptions of student achievement levels.

Clustered Scores – PLTW is going to provide subscores for the skill clusters that are covered in the assessments. These skill clusters have been determined through a Test Blueprint Advisory Panel made up of PLTW teachers, industry professionals, and higher education faculty, following careful analysis of the PLTW Frameworks.

Daily Access Code (DAC) – Used only for the EoC Assessments. Students will need a different code for each section of the test. The educator can download the Daily Access Codes in PDF or CSV format by 3:30 p.m. one day prior to the testing date.

Equating – Linking the new scale to the former stanine scale to allow for easy and manageable meaning-making by those who currently use the stanine.

Interim Mini-Tests / Informative Assessment – The test has the same types of questions that appear on the EoC Assessments, except simulations. These assessments serve as an opportunity to practice testing the content and using the testing platform.

Kite Portal – The PLTW Kite Educator Portal is what teachers use to deliver the End-of-Course (EoC) Assessment and Informative Assessments. Two portals are used for the assessments—the PLTW Kite Educator Portal, which administrators use to assign and monitor tests and manage data, and the PLTW Kite Student Portal, which students use to take assessments.

Personal Needs and Preferences Profile (PNP) – The PNP contains student demographic information, including race and Hispanic ethnicity, and any student accommodations for testing. Completing the PNP Settings extract upload is necessary to accommodate a student's race and Hispanic ethnicity, a requirement that you can only fulfill by uploading the PNP extract into the PLTW Kite Educator Portal.

Practice Test – Another name for an interim test. Practice tests are used for students to familiarize themselves with the Kite platform. Practice tests may be, but are not necessarily, based on course-specific content. Teachers can create practice (interim) tests with questions from any course to introduce students to the types of questions that will be on their EoC as well as the functionality of the kite testing platform.

Raw Score – The number of points earned out of the total possible points.

Scaled Score – The score assigned after items have a final review with both a statistical analysis of student responses as well as review by content experts, based on establishment of Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs).

Standard Setting – Standard setting is used to define levels of achievement or proficiency as well as the cut scores corresponding to those levels. PLTW will undertake a standard-setting process with a team of individuals consisting of PLTW Teachers, industry professionals, and higher education faculty after data is collected from the first year of EoC testing.

Stanine Score – A method of scoring tests using a nine-point scale with a mean of five and a standard deviation of two. This scale was used on PLTW EoC Assessments prior to 2018.

Student Credentials – Students use the credentials or logins (usernames and passwords) to access the PLTW Kite Student Portal to complete *IN*formative Assessments and EoC Assessments. These credentials are unique to the Kite Portal and are unrelated to students' PLTW login information.

Testing Device – The electronic device that students use to take an EoC Assessment.

Whitelist – An approved list of URL and IP addresses in Kite Portal. Schools need to add the PLTW Kite Student Portal to their whitelist content filter.