



AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

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August 21, 2013

Re: Purpose and Use of Test Item Specifications Documents and Assessment Blueprints

Dear AVID Elective Teacher:

A standardized end-of-course assessment item bank has been designed by AVID teachers and leaders from the state of Florida and will be made available for use during the spring 2014 assessment period. AVID Center developed, reviewed, and field tested these items for secure use with the AVID Elective in grades 6–12 at the districts' discretion. The item bank was developed as a resource for Florida districts, to provide a high quality assessment item bank and enable districts to comply with Florida's EOC requirements. Your district may or may not elect to utilize the assessment developed by AVID Center, so please contact your district directly if you have questions regarding the EOC, which will be used with the AVID Elective or any other course you may teach.

The documents explained herein, and accessible through the Race to the Top links on www.fldoe.org, will help to guide your instruction of the AVID Elective utilizing the AVID Curriculum, AVID Elective Standards and Weeks at a Glance lesson planning resource. All administration, scoring, and other details associated with the administration of EOCs are the responsibility of the school districts and not AVID Center.

The Test Item Specifications documents were designed to support your efforts in helping your AVID students prepare for their grade level EOC Assessment for the AVID Elective Course. Each document explains the benchmarks being assessed for grades 6–12 and includes a sample question for you to share and discuss with your students. Along with the sample question, you will note a detailed description of the various ways a particular benchmark may be assessed, found in the *Content Limits* section of the individual benchmark specifications pages. We strongly suggest that you and your students review the *Content Limits* section to consider and predict the types of questions being asked on the assessment along with the level of complexity that students will experience while testing.

The Assessment Blueprint documents outline the construction of the test content for each grade level and describes the number of items that will be on the test along with the complexity level of the items. Students should be made aware of the information contained in the Assessment Blueprint to better prepare themselves for the conditions of the assessment.

This assessment only includes benchmarks from the AVID Center Elective Standards that are measurable through a multiple choice format. The Test Item Specifications documents also include a detailed explanation of the test format, cognitive complexity levels, AVID glossary of terms, course descriptions and a list of Common Core State Standards that cross over into the grade level AVID Standards. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with each of these important areas of the document in order to better support your students with their test-taking experience.

Thank you for your continued support of AVID students and for enhancing the ACRS in your school.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine R. Simmons".

Catherine Simmons

AVID Center State Director, Florida and Georgia