

Frequently Asked Questions

1) *What is the Student Work Pilot?*

The Student Work (SW) pilot is part of the DOE's broader effort to provide feedback to schools on rigorous, Common Core-aligned instruction. The SW pilot is also one of a number of strategies the DOE is exploring to broaden the measures of student performance in the Elementary School (ES) Progress Reports.

Culminating assignments or assessments, rubrics and corresponding graded student work submitted by participating schools each will be evaluated based on alignment to the expectations of the Common Core and then assigned a composite score. The DOE will use findings from the pilot to determine how the ES Progress Report can incorporate evidence of student performance directly from classrooms.

2) *Why should a school participate in the pilot?*

The SW pilot creates an opportunity outside of the New York state tests to receive feedback on rigorous, Common Core-aligned instruction and student performance. Schools that are interested in informing the future direction of the ES Progress Report should participate in the pilot. Lessons learned from the SW pilot will inform decisions about how to incorporate similar measures into the ES Progress Report at a citywide level.

3) *What are the requirements for eligibility?*

All schools serving students in elementary grades (pre-kindergarten through 5th grade) are eligible to apply to the SW pilot.

4) *How do I submit?*

Schools may register on a rolling basis from **February 4, 2013 to February 11, 2013** by emailing studentworkpilot@schools.nyc.gov. Within one business day of registration, schools will receive an email from studentworkpilot@schools.nyc.gov providing information with details about how to complete the **online submission** process.

Online applications will take less than two hours to submit. Participating schools will be eligible for per-session funding for teachers to cover the time used to submit applications.

5) *How many classrooms from my school should submit work?*

After schools register, they will be notified of how many classrooms should submit work.

The number of classrooms required to submit work from each participating school will be determined by the school's size. For example:

School size	<i>Classes between pre-k and 2nd grade</i>	<i>Classes between 3rd and 5th grade</i>	<i>Total classes</i>
Fewer than 800 students	Work from ~2 classrooms	Work from ~2 classrooms	Work from total of ~4 classrooms
More than 800 students	Work from ~4 classrooms	Work from ~4 classrooms	Work from total of ~8 classrooms

6) How do I determine what to submit?

For each classroom, schools will be asked to submit work from one math and one ELA unit of instruction that is representative of the school's elementary ELA and math curriculum. For both math and ELA, schools will be asked to submit:

- The culminating assignment given to students
- Any teacher rubric or scoring materials
- The scoring distribution of how students in the class performed on the assignment
 - o The DOE will select students from the scoring distribution, and ask schools to submit ~3 examples of work for selected students in each subject (ELA and math) per classroom.

If schools have questions about what to submit, they should work with their Achievement Coach. Achievement Coaches can reach out to studentworkpilot@schools.nyc.gov with additional questions.

7) How will submissions be evaluated?

The artifacts collected will each be reviewed for alignment to the standards and then assigned a composite score indicating whether the set of artifacts are likely to support students in meeting the CCLS.

The evaluation of the culminating assignment, rubric and graded student work will be guided by the following questions:

- What are the task and rubric asking students to do? Is the performance requested aligned to the targeted standard(s)? Is it a worthwhile use of student time (text worth teaching, question worth asking)?
- Are the performance expectations in the 'at standard' category of the rubric consistent with the expectations of the standard? Does the rubric demonstrate a progression of the content and skills within the grade band across categories?
- To what degree does the student work present evidence of meeting the targeted Common Core Standard(s)? Is the grading of the student work accurate/benchmarked in the standard(s)?

8) When will I receive feedback? What feedback will I receive?

Schools that submit an application will receive feedback in May 2013 [exact date TBD]. Feedback will be based on the Common Core-aligned rubrics and will provide valuable formative information to applicants around the strengths and weaknesses of submitted artifacts. Schools can use the feedback and application tools to inform their school's transition to the Common Core Learning Standards.

9) Will the results of the SW pilot be reported on the Progress Report?

Participation will have no impact on Progress Report scores or other DOE accountability measures. The results of the SW pilot will not be factored into Progress Report results or reported, but schools will receive recognition on the Progress Report (e.g., in the form of a badge or star) for their participation.

The DOE will use findings from the pilot to determine how the ES Progress Report can incorporate evidence of student performance directly from classrooms.

10) Whom do I contact for questions about the SW pilot application process?

Please contact studentworkpilot@schools.nyc.gov.

11) Whom do I contact to provide general feedback on the Progress Report?

To provide general feedback on the Progress Report, please contact the Progress Report team at PR_Support@schools.nyc.gov. **Note that changes to next year's Progress Report will be announced in spring 2013.**