



Elevating Student Voice Communications Toolkit

Tools for School and District Leaders to better
understand Oregon's Student Educational
Equity Development (SEED) Survey

February 2024



Oregon Department of Education | Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey

Communications Toolkit

February 2024

Dear Education Partners,

This communications toolkit is designed to support school staff, district leaders, students and families to better understand the Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey. The materials in the toolkit include:

- Annual Notice; includes key messages
- Parent/Guardian Rights for survey participation
- 1-page flyer template
- Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

We invite you to make use of these resources to initiate conversations and communication with staff, students, families and your school board. Thank you for elevating the voices of Oregon's students.

More information can be found on the [ODE SEED Survey](#) web page.

Please contact the [ODE SEED Survey team](#) with any questions or concerns.



ELEVATING STUDENT VOICE

The Oregon Department of Education is deeply committed to helping each and every student learn, grow, and thrive. ODE is also committed to providing opportunities for feedback and input to continuously improve education experiences for all students in Oregon. The Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey will help ODE gather information about the educational experiences of students in Oregon. This information will help ODE to develop appropriate resources and supports for districts in Oregon, and better target those resources where they are most needed. SEED Survey data may also help districts develop a fuller picture of their local contexts and make strategic modifications to curriculum, instruction, and related academic supports that they offer students.

THE SEED SURVEY...

- **...provides opportunity to hear directly from students.** The SEED Survey gives students the opportunity to voice their experiences in Oregon's education system.
- **...is designed to capture students' sense of belonging and experiences at school.** The survey asks students about their access to learning resources, learning opportunities, self-efficacy beliefs, and sense of belonging. Grades 6-11 also include questions about career-technical education and extra-curricular engagement, while grades 9-11 include questions about post-graduation planning.
- **...is an equity tool that meets the moment.** The results of the survey give schools powerful information to create more equitable learning experiences based on the perceptions and lived experiences of students in their schools.
- **...is available to meet the needs of all students.** Students have access to the same accessibility supports that are available to them on statewide assessments. An Alternate SEED Survey is also available, designed for students experiencing significant cognitive disabilities, and is completed alongside a teacher or educational professional that knows the student well.
- **...takes 10-20 minutes to complete.** The SEED survey is brief and contains multiple choice questions for grades 3-11 and additional open-ended questions for grades 6-11.

DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

Oregon law (House Bill 2656) requires each school district to make the SEED Survey available to students in grades 3-11. Parents or guardians may decline, either verbally or in writing, to have their student participate in the SEED Survey. Schools will provide parents with notice of administration and the process for declining participation at least 5 days prior to administering the SEED Survey. Students may also decline, at any time, either verbally or in writing to participate. Students may also decline to answer individual questions on the SEED survey.

STATEWIDE ADMINISTRATION WINDOW

The SEED Survey will be administered within the statewide window indicated below. Schools and districts will determine specific administration days and times.

Grades 3-11

03/05/2024 — 06/14/2024

STAY INFORMED

For additional information and to review the SEED Survey, visit the Oregon Department of Education's [SEED Survey webpage](#) or scan the QR code to the right. School and district staff can answer additional questions.

SCAN ME



PARENT/GUARDIAN RIGHTS FOR SURVEY PARTICIPATION

Oregon law (House Bill 2656) permits parents or guardians to decline, either verbally or in writing, to have their student participate in the SEED Survey. The school shall provide any student who is excused from participating in the SEED Survey with supervised study time (or another learning activity) while other students are completing the survey.

- If you would like your student to participate in the SEED Survey, **no further action is required.**
- If you do not want your student to participate in the SEED Survey, **please complete one of the options below.**
 - To help your student's school efficiently plan, please submit this form or contact your student's school at least one day prior to the first day of survey administration.

OPTION 1

To decline in writing, please complete this section and return this form to your student's school.

Student's Legal Last Name: _____

Student's Legal First Name: _____

Student's Enrolled Grade: _____

Student's School: _____

I understand that by signing this form I am declining to have my student participate in the SEED Survey for the current academic year only.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

OPTION 2

To decline verbally, please contact your student's school by phone or visit in-person. Be prepared to provide the following information:

- Student's legal name (first and last)
- Student's enrolled grade
- Your name (as the student's parent/guardian)
- Verbal confirmation that you would like to decline participation in the SEED Survey for your student



ELEVATING STUDENT VOICE

Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey

Student Voice Survey

We want to hear from our students! This survey asks students about their school experience, how they feel about school and resources and activities they have access to.

Did you know?

- Offered to students in grades 3-11.
- Students can use the same supports during the SEED Survey that are available in statewide summative assessments.
- The SEED Survey is available in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese in the Test Delivery System.
- This data will be helpful to our school decision making discussions.

Take the 15-minute Survey Today!



See the survey districts are talking about on the [ODE SEED Survey web page](#).





ELEVATING STUDENT VOICE

Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey

Resources for Educators

The resources below provide additional information for the administration of the survey.

- The [ODE SEED Survey web page](#) contains:
 - A full copy of the SEED Survey is available in English, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese for grades 3-11.
 - A full copy of the Alt-SEED Survey for grades 3-8 & 11.
- The [SEED Survey Test Administration Manual](#) supports District Testing Coordinators (DTCs) and Test Administrators (TAs) who manage in-person and remote sessions for students participating in the Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey. The guide assumes some familiarity with the Oregon Statewide Assessment System (OSAS) test delivery system.
- Alt-SEED administration is found on the same training and proficiency platform that houses our [Oregon Extended Assessment](#), and subsequently is administered by an Assessor that is familiar with the student's instruction, strengths and individual needs.





ELEVATING STUDENT VOICE

Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is the SEED Survey required?

A: Yes, House Bill 2646 requires districts to make available "a survey administered by the Department of Education that is designed to assist the department in gathering information about the education experiences of students in this state, including information on learning, opportunities to learn and school culture and climate."

Q: How is the SEED Survey related to statewide testing?

A: Unlike state testing, which measures what students know and can do, the SEED Survey measures what students experience during their education in Oregon. The SEED Survey fills in some of the gaps in our understanding by capturing students' perceptions and experiences.

Q: What exactly is measured on the SEED Survey?

A: The SEED Survey will measure student perceptions in four core constructs: Access to Learning Resources, Opportunity to Learn (OTL), Self-Efficacy Beliefs, and Sense of Belonging. The OTL and Self-Efficacy constructs focus on specific content areas in each grade level.

- The high school survey includes all core constructs and all content areas, while also addressing Extra-curricular Engagement and Post-Graduation Planning.
- OTL and Self-Efficacy are measured in English language arts at Grades 3, 6, and 9; in mathematics at Grades 4, 7, 10; in science at Grades 5, 8, 11; and in Native American Culture/History in Grades 4-11.
- The Grades 3-5 and 7-11 surveys contain questions about Well-Rounded Education.
- The Grades 6-11 surveys include questions pertaining to Career-Technical Education.
- The Alt-SEED Survey—developed for students experiencing significant cognitive disabilities—measures: Independence, Access to Learning Resources, OTL, and Sense of Belonging.

Q: How was the SEED Survey developed?

A: ODE researched a range of national and international educational surveys including NAEP, TIMSS, PISA, and others. ODE customized items from these surveys for the Oregon context. Items on national and international surveys undergo rigorous review on a regular basis; however, ODE recruited Oregon educators from diverse backgrounds and regions to review all prospective items for the SEED Survey using an Oregon lens. ODE will revisit the survey each year to evaluate survey items and update the questions as needed..



ELEVATING STUDENT VOICE

Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey

Q: What kind of practice might students need for the SEED Survey?

A: The SEED survey uses the same interface as state testing. Students who are new to the testing interface may wish to practice navigation or use of embedded tools and supports through one of the OSAS Assessment sample and training tests.

Q: How is the SEED Survey accessed by students?

A: Students must have the opportunity to take the SEED Survey during school hours when no other activities are planned ((ex: the survey cannot be administered during lunch or recess).). Students can complete the SEED Survey using a secure testing browser or a non-secure browser.. Test administrators have the option of assigning the SEED Survey in a Learning Management System (LMS) such as Canvas. If a student does not complete the survey during the designated time period, they can access it at another time, during the open testing window (March 5-June 14, 2024).

Q: Since survey items are non-secure, can teachers or parents help students with the answers?

A: Some SEED Survey items ask students to evaluate their school experience, so it is important that students are provided with the privacy and independence needed to allow for personalized responses. While it is inappropriate to try to influence student responses, it is permissible to help students better understand the question. For example, teachers or parents may explain what a word means.

Q: Can the SEED Survey be paused? What happens to partially completed surveys when the survey window closes?

A: Yes, the SEED Survey can be paused, and student progress will be saved. Students can return to the survey either in school or out off school. Since there is no scoring or accountability measure attached to the survey, answers from partially completed surveys will be included in the data.

Q: In which languages will the SEED Survey be offered?

A: English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese