



July 22, 2025

Dear School Leaders,

As the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) begins releasing student score reports, we want to ensure you are equipped to provide clarity and context to families and staff regarding this year's results.

In May, the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (CEQA) voted to restore Oklahoma's cut scores to the 2023 levels. This decision was based on three key objectives:

1. Aligning Oklahoma's ELA and Math assessment scores with the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP),
2. Closing the "honesty gap" created by the 2024 cut scores, which made proficiency rates appear higher than national benchmarks supported, and
3. Ensuring that students identified as Proficient are genuinely on track for success in college and career.

As a result of this adjustment, families and educators may notice a decrease in the number of students scoring at the Proficient level compared to last year. It's important to emphasize that this does not reflect a drop in student learning or school effectiveness. Instead, it marks a return to more rigorous and nationally aligned expectations that provide a more honest, accurate picture of student readiness.

To support these conversations, OEQA has published a new [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) resource that explains the reasoning behind the change, the concept of the "honesty gap," and how to talk with families about this year's results.

We encourage you to share this resource with principals, counselors, instructional leaders, and anyone who may be fielding questions about the 2025 results.

If you have further questions or need additional support, please contact us at info@oeqa.ok.gov.

Sincerely,

The OEQA Team