



# Utah Aspire Plus Score Interpretation Guide for Parents



**2020-2021**

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## General Information for Parents

### Purpose of this Guide

This guide will help you interpret and understand the information provided by your student's Utah Aspire Plus assessment score reports. There are three different score reports that provide similar kinds of information: (1) The OnDemand Preliminary Score Report, (2) the Individual Student Report, and (3) the Parent Portal landing page. This guide provides examples of the three report formats and explains their components.

### About Utah Aspire Plus

Utah Aspire Plus is an online test that measures student proficiency in English, mathematics, reading, and science. Utah Aspire Plus was created as directed by Utah Statute 53E-4-304 which requires the Utah State Board of Education (USB E) to administer an assessment to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students that is predictive of the college readiness assessment (ACT). Utah Aspire Plus provides valuable information for students, parents, and teachers about student progress toward readiness for education and employment after graduation from high school (postsecondary readiness).

The key measurement targets for each test are:

- English: language conventions and comprehension.
- Math: linear relationships, abstract and quantitative reasoning, and problem solving.
- Reading: reading and comprehending complex informational and literary texts.
- Science: gathering and investigating, developing models, using mathematical thinking, and constructing explanations.

Before test questions are published for use, they are reviewed by Utah educators. Data and statistical information from test results are analyzed and reviewed frequently to ensure tests perform as expected for all students.

### Report availability

#### OnDemand Preliminary Score Reports

- English, math, and reading preliminary scores will be available after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. If you would like a copy of your student's preliminary scores after June 30<sup>th</sup>, please contact your student's school and request a copy of your student's OnDemand Preliminary Score Report.

#### Individual Score Reports

- All final scores, including science scores and composite scores, will be available on the Individual Student Reports (ISR) by the end of September 2021. Your student's school should provide a copy of the Individual Score Report to you by the end of October 2021. Additionally, you will be able to access your student's Individual Score Report in the Parent Portal.

#### Parent Portal

- You can access your student's results in the Parent Portal at <https://results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com>. To set up an account, you will enter your student's first name, last name, your student's claim code. Claim codes are available on your student's OnDemand preliminary report, Individual Score report, and from your student's school.
- Preliminary Utah Aspire Plus English, reading and mathematics results will be available after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Final test scores and your student's Individual Student Report (ISR) will be available on the Parent Portal by the end of September 2021.

## Sample Reports

Below are samples of student reports. The main components of each report are identified with a letter that corresponds to a detailed description of the component on pages 10 – 12 of this guide. The example reports do not include actual data from any test administration.

## The Utah Aspire Plus OnDemand Report – Preliminary Student Report

The purpose of the OnDemand Report – Preliminary Student Detail Report is to provide preliminary student performance data on the Utah Aspire Plus summative assessments, prior to the release of the Individual Student Report (ISR). To request a copy of your student’s OnDemand Preliminary Report, please contact your student’s school.

The following is an example of an OnDemand Report.

### Subject Specific Preliminary Student Detail Report



**OnDemand Reports - Preliminary Student Detail Report**

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FIRSTNAME | LASTNAME (0201000)

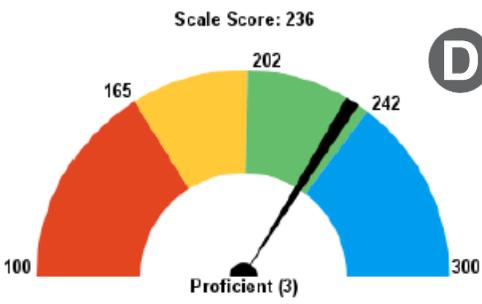
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**Test Details**

<b>Statewide Student ID</b> 0201000	A	<b>Date of Birth</b> 05/08/2005	<b>Test Name</b> Grade 09 English
<b>District</b> CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (XX)		<b>School</b> BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL (XX100)	<b>Test Date</b> 01/21/2020

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**Utah Aspire Plus Proficiency Score**



Scale Score: 236

Proficient (3)

**What does your student's score mean?**

For each subject, the student's performance is summarized by a scale score and proficiency level. Scale scores range from 100 - 300 and proficiency levels range from 1 - 4 and are described below:

- Below Proficient (1)
- Approaching Proficient (2)
- Proficient (3)
- Highly Proficient (4)

Your student's Scale Score: 236  
Confidence Range\*: 230 - 242

**Making the most of this information:**

To learn more about your student's performance level and find ideas to support your student's progress, please visit the Utah Aspire Plus Assessment page: <http://bit.ly/UtahAspirePlus>.



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Based on your student's Utah Aspire Plus scale score, if your student were to take the ACT today, your student's predicted ACT score on the English test would be:

Test	Predicted ACT Subject Test Score Range*	ACT College Readiness Benchmark	Postsecondary Readiness
English	24 - 27	18	On Target

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\* Learn more about predicted ACT scores, ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, the Confidence Range of test scores, and Utah Aspire Plus Proficiency Levels by visiting the Utah Aspire Plus Assessment page at <http://bit.ly/UtahAspirePlus>. If you have additional questions about your student's scores, please contact your student's teacher or guidance counselor.

To access your student's performance results online, visit the Utah Aspire Plus Parent Portal at <https://www.results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com>. To access this student's performance and set up your parent/guardian account access, use claim code **BWNXd4tZpLrH**.

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# Composite Preliminary Student Detail Report



## OnDemand Reports - Preliminary Student Detail Report

FIRSTNAME | LASTNAME (0201000)

### Test Details

<b>Statewide Student ID</b> 0201000	<b>A</b>	<b>Date of Birth</b> 05/08/2005	<b>Test Name</b> Grade 09
<b>District</b> CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (XX)		<b>School</b> BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL (XX100)	<b>Test Date</b> Spring 2021

### Utah Composite Proficiency Score

**Predicted Composite ACT Score Range: 21-24**

0 18 36

■ Not on Target ■ On Target

**What does your student's score mean?**

The composite score is an average test score across the four Utah Aspire Plus subject areas (Mathematics, English, Reading, and Science) and is provided for students who take all four assessments. The predicted composite ACT score range graphic contains two levels, 'Not on Target' and 'On Target', along the ACT scale (0-36). These levels are determined by a benchmark score of '18' that is defined as Utah's postsecondary readiness indicator.

Your student's Predicted Composite ACT Score Range: 21 - 24

Your student's College Readiness: On Target

### Predicted ACT Composite Score

Test	Predicted Composite ACT Score Range	Postsecondary Readiness Target	Postsecondary Readiness
Composite	21 - 24	18	On Target

Learn more about the Predicted Composite ACT Score Range, Utah's Postsecondary Readiness Target, ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, and Utah Aspire Plus Proficiency Levels by visiting the Utah Aspire Plus Assessment page at <http://bit.ly/UtahAspirePlus>. If you have additional questions about your student's scores, please contact your student's teacher or guidance counselor.

To access your student's performance results online, visit the Utah Aspire Plus Parent Portal at <https://www.results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com>. To access this student's performance and set up your parent/guardian account access, use claim code **BWNXd4tZpLrH**.

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## The Utah Aspire Plus Individual Student Report (ISR)

The Individual Student Report (ISR) provides your student’s Utah Aspire Plus assessment finalized score information. There are two main components to the ISR: postsecondary readiness and Utah core standards-based proficiency. The following is an example of an ISR.

\*\* SAMPLE REPORT ONLY \*\*



**A**

**FIRSTNAME I. LASTNAME**  
 GRADE 9  
 BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL  
 CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

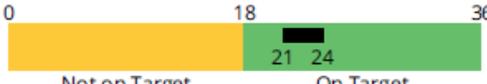


**UTAH ASPIRE PLUS GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT 2020-2021**

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**COMPOSITE SCALE SCORE AND PREDICTED ACT SCORE**

Your student took the Utah Grade 9 Assessment in [Month] of [CCYY]. Below you will find your student’s composite scale score and predicted ACT score, followed by the subject area predicted ACT scores.

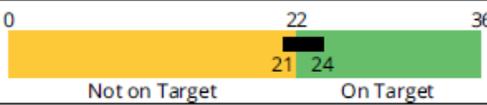
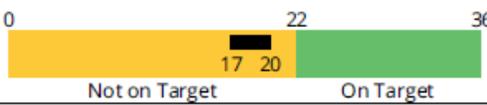
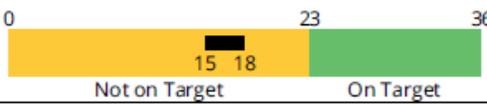
Composite Scale Score	Predicted Composite ACT Score Range*	Postsecondary Readiness Prediction
384	<b>B</b> 21-24	 <p style="text-align: center;">Not on Target      On Target</p>

Postsecondary readiness is defined by Utah as a composite ACT score of 18 or higher.  
 \*For more information on the predicted ACT score range, see the [Score Interpretation Guide for Parents](https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8) (<https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8>).

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**SUBJECT AREA PREDICTED ACT SCORES**

Below you will find your student’s predicted ACT subject scores based on their performance in the four subject areas that make up the assessment (reading, English, math, science).

Subject Area	Predicted ACT Subject Score Range*	ACT College Readiness Benchmarks**
 Reading	<b>C</b> 21-24	 <p style="text-align: center;">Not on Target      On Target</p>
 English	24-27	 <p style="text-align: center;">Not on Target      On Target</p>
 Math	17-20	 <p style="text-align: center;">Not on Target      On Target</p>
 Science	15-18	 <p style="text-align: center;">Not on Target      On Target</p>

\*\*ACT College Readiness Benchmarks for Subjects: Students who score at or above these benchmark scores (22-Reading, 18-English, 22-Math, 23-Science) are more likely to be successful in college courses commonly taken by first-year students. For more information about ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, visit [USBE Utah Aspire Plus Assessment](https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8) page (<https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8>).

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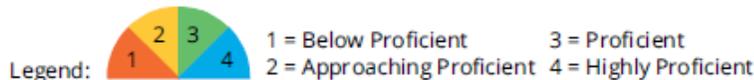
Birth Date: 2007-06-25
Page 1
Student ID: 0123456

SUBJECT AREA SCALE SCORES AND UTAH PROFICIENCY LEVELS

The remainder of this report details your student's performance compared to [Utah Core Standards](https://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/utahcorestandards) (<https://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/utahcorestandards>) and proficiency levels in each of the four subject areas of the assessment. Below you will find your student's scale scores by subject area and Utah proficiency levels.

Subject	Scale Score (Confidence Range*)	Utah Proficiency Level
 <b>READING</b>	<b>D</b> 394 (389-399)	 <b>4</b> Highly Proficient
 <b>ENGLISH</b>	384 (380-388)	 <b>3</b> Proficient
 <b>MATH</b>	284 (283-286)	 <b>2</b> Approaching Proficient
 <b>SCIENCE</b>	184 (181-187)	 <b>1</b> Below Proficient

\*For more information about the Confidence Range, go to <https://tinyurl.com/USBereporting>.



RESOURCES

To access your student's performance results online, visit the [Utah Aspire Plus Parent Portal](https://www.results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com) (<https://www.results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com>), or use the Quick Response Code (QR Code) to the right with a smartphone, tablet, or other device. To set up your parent account access for the Utah Aspire Plus Parent Portal, use daim code **xjSdhEgc2ijz**.



Learn more about the Utah Aspire Plus, including predicted ACT scores, Utah's Postsecondary Readiness Indicator, ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, and Utah Proficiency Levels by visiting [USBE Utah Aspire Plus Assessment](https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8) page (<https://schools.utah.gov/assessment/assessments?mid=1173&tid=8>.) If you have additional questions about your student's scores, please contact your student's teacher or guidance counselor.

Every high school student, teacher, and administrator in Utah has free, unlimited, and secure access to ACT test prep resources through Shmoop. For more information on how to access these free resources, visit the [Utah Shmoop](https://schools.shmoop.com/utah/) page (<https://schools.shmoop.com/utah/>).

## The Parent Portal

At the top of the Parent Portal there is general information on student data privacy and Utah Aspire Plus assessment results. The site describes the scores provided for Utah Aspire Plus and it includes a link to additional information about interpreting student test scores. A Pearson help desk contact is provided for additional assistance on accessing student test scores.

Your student's test score results can be found by entering last name, first name, and claim code as seen in the screenshot below. The claim code can be found on the Individual Student Report (ISR), OnDemand Preliminary Report, or obtained from your student's school.

The screenshot shows the 'Parent Portal' interface. At the top, there is a header with 'Parent Portal' on the left and 'diane.tlp@pearson.com' on the right. Below the header, there are sections for 'Data Confidentiality and Disclosure' and 'Utah Aspire Plus Results'. The 'Utah Aspire Plus Results' section includes a legend for proficiency levels: Below Proficient (1), Proficient (3), Approaching Proficient (2), and Highly Proficient (4). Below this is a search form with fields for 'FIRSTNAME LASTNAME', 'Student's First Name', 'Student's Last Name', and 'Claim Code'. A large letter 'E' is overlaid on the 'Claim Code' field. A 'Find Results' button is at the bottom of the search form. To the right of the search form is a section titled 'My Students' Test Results' which displays a list of test results. A large letter 'D' is overlaid on the second result in this list. The Pearson logo is at the bottom right of the page.

Student Name	Score	Proficiency Level
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2021 Grade 9 Mathematics	194	Approaching Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2021 Grade 9 English	192	Approaching Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2021 Grade 9 Science Accessible starting 10/1/2021, 1:00:00 AM	-	-
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2021 Grade 9 Reading	219	Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2019 Grade 9 English	195	Approaching Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2019 Grade 9 Reading	212	Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2019 Grade 9 Science	167	Approaching Proficient
FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Spring 2019 Grade 9 Mathematics	136	Below Proficient

## Detailed Component Description

### **A** Identification Information

The student's name, grade, school, and district are provided.

### **B** Composite Scale Score and Predicted ACT Score

The student's composite scale score and predicted ACT composite score range are provided. The composite scale score is the average of the four Utah Aspire Plus assessments (English, reading, mathematics, and science) and is provided for students who take all four assessments.

One purpose of the Utah Aspire Plus assessment is to provide predictive ACT scores. Students' test scores on Utah Aspire Plus are linked to ranges of predicted ACT scores. The predicted ACT composite score range graphic is comprised of two levels, Not on Target and On Target, along the ACT scale (0–36). A predicted ACT composite score of 18 or higher indicates “on target” for Utah’s postsecondary readiness benchmark while scores below 18 indicate “not on target” for postsecondary readiness. The student's predicted score range is indicated by a black bar within the graphic. If the student's predicted ACT score range crosses over the benchmark score (18), the student is indicated as being ‘On Target’. The predicted ACT score ranges are determined through a statistical process that links scores from Utah Aspire Plus to scores on the ACT.

### **C** Subject Area ACT Predicted Scores

This section of the report provides the student's predicted ACT score ranges for the subject tests (math, English, reading and science). Student test scores from Utah Aspire Plus are linked to the ACT scale to obtain a predicted score range on each ACT subject test. Each predicted ACT score range is provided within graphics that distinguish predicted scores below the subject ACT College Readiness Benchmark score as “Not on Target” and those on or above the subject ACT College Readiness Benchmark score as “On Target.” The student's predicted score range for each subject test is indicated by a black bar within each graphic. If the student's predicted subject test ACT score range crosses over the ACT College Readiness Benchmark score, the student is indicated as being ‘On Target’.

The ACT College Readiness benchmarks, as described in the ACT® Technical Manual, are empirically derived performance targets on the ACT that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first year college courses. Table 1 contains the ACT college readiness benchmark score for each subject test. You can learn more about the ACT college readiness benchmarks here: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/college-and-career-readiness.html>.

Table 1. ACT College Readiness Benchmarks

Subject Test	The ACT College Readiness Benchmark
English	18
Reading	22
Mathematics	22
Science	23

## **D** Subject Area Scale Scores and Utah Proficiency Levels

For each subject test, a student’s scale score is provided with a confidence range below it. The confidence range represents the expected range of a student’s score if the student took the same form of the test multiple times.

Students’ test performance is summarized by proficiency levels which indicate the extent to which students demonstrate knowledge and skills on the assessment. There are four proficiency levels for Utah Aspire Plus:

- Level 4: Highly Proficient
- Level 3: Proficient
- Level 2: Approaching Proficient
- Level 1: Below Proficient

The proficiency levels are defined by performance level descriptors which outline the knowledge and skills that students should know and be able to do to be classified in each level. The proficiency level descriptors (PLDs) for Utah Aspire Plus are provided in Appendix A.

The student’s proficiency level for each subject test is determined by their subject test scale score. Cut scores that differentiate one proficiency level from another were determined through a collaborative process known as standard setting. During this process, Utah educators and educational measurement specialists reviewed the Utah Aspire Plus summative assessments along with the Utah Core Standards and PLDs to provide judgments on what students should know and be able to do at each proficiency level. A multi-round process of educator judgments, data review, and discussion resulted in a set of recommended cut scores for each Utah Aspire Plus assessment. The Utah State Board of Education formally adopted the cut scores for the Utah Aspire Plus assessments. The cut scores define the scale score ranges for each proficiency level. Table 2 provides the scale score ranges that define each proficiency level for each Utah Aspire Plus summative assessment.

Table 2. Utah Aspire Plus Proficiency Scale Score Ranges

Grade	Subject	Below Proficient	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Highly Proficient
9	English	100 to 164	165 to 201	202 to 241	242 to 300
	Reading	100 to 165	166 to 203	204 to 230	231 to 300
	Mathematics	100 to 171	172 to 205	206 to 232	233 to 300
	Science*	100 to 186	187 to 210	211 to 236	237 to 300
10	English	100 to 160	161 to 199	200 to 244	245 to 300
	Reading	100 to 174	175 to 203	204 to 234	235 to 300
	Mathematics	100 to 180	181 to 209	210 to 235	236 to 300
	Science*	100 to 186	187 to 209	210 to 239	240 to 300



The student proficiency level is provided within a “meter” graphic on the score report that shows an approximate position of the scale score within the base range (100–300).

**Note:** The size of the shaded regions does not indicate size of score range by proficiency level or proportion of students.

\*The Utah State Board of Education adopted new science standards for high school in June of 2019. The first administration of the new science assessment occurred in spring of 2021.

### **E** Parent Portal and Claim Code

Parents and guardians can access student results, including the student's individual student report (ISR), within the Parent Portal. Parents must create an account within the portal to access student information.

To set up an account, parents will need the student's administration claim code. Claim codes are available on the student's Individual report, OnDemand report, and from their student's school. Once an account is created, parents can access student results in the Parent Portal at <https://results-ut.pearsonaccessnext.com> by entering the student's first name, last name, and the claim code.

## Appendix A: Utah Aspire Plus Performance Level Descriptors

English Grades 9 and 10			
Below Proficient	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Highly Proficient
The level 1 students can <b>partially access</b> grade-level content and engage with higher- order thinking skills with extensive support.	The level 2 students can access grade-level content and engage in higher-order thinking skills with <b>minimal independence and some support</b> .	The level 3 students can access grade-level content, and <b>independently</b> engages in <b>higher-order</b> thinking skills. This level of performance also likely indicates students are on track to be sufficiently prepared for college or career.	The level 4 students can go beyond grade-level content, and <b>independently</b> engages in <b>higher-order</b> thinking skills. This level of performance also likely indicates students are on track to be well-prepared for college or career.

Reading Grades 9 and 10			
Below Proficient	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Highly Proficient
The level 1 students can <b>partially access</b> grade-level content and engage with higher-order thinking skills with extensive support.	The level 2 students can access grade-level content and engages in higher-order thinking skills with <b>minimal independence and some support</b> .	The level 3 students can access grade-level content, and independently engages in <b>higher-order</b> thinking skills. This level of performance also likely indicates students are on track to be sufficiently prepared for college or career.	The level 4 students can go beyond grade-level content, and <b>independently</b> engages in <b>higher-order</b> thinking skills. This level of performance also likely indicates students are on track to be well-prepared for college or career.

**Mathematics**  
**Secondary Math I & II**

<b>Below Proficient</b>	<b>Approaching Proficient</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Highly Proficient</b>
<p>The Level 1 students are below proficient in applying the mathematics knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core State Standards. The students generally perform significantly below the standard for their grade level and are likely able to partially access grade-level content with extensive support.</p>	<p>The Level 2 students are approaching proficient in applying the mathematics knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core State Standards. The students generally perform slightly below the standard for their grade level and are likely able to access grade-level content with moderate support.</p>	<p>The Level 3 students are proficient in applying the mathematics knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core State Standards. The students generally perform at the standard for their grade level and can access grade-level content with minimal support. This level of mathematics performance also likely indicates students are on track to be sufficiently prepared for college or career.</p>	<p>The Level 4 students are highly proficient in applying the mathematics knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core State Standards. The students generally perform significantly above the standard for their grade level and can access above grade-level content. This level of mathematics performance also likely indicates students are on track to be well-prepared for college or career.</p>

**Science  
Grades 9 and 10**

<b>Below Proficient</b>	<b>Approaching Proficient</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Highly Proficient</b>
<p>The Level 1 students are below proficient in achieving or applying the science attitudes and knowledge/ skills as specified in the Utah Core Standards. The students generally perform significantly below the standard for their grade level and are able to engage with higher-order thinking skills for all science contexts with extensive support.</p>	<p>The Level 2 students are approaching proficient in achieving or applying the science attitudes and knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core Standards. The students generally perform slightly below the standard for their grade level and are likely able to engage in higher-order thinking skills for all science contexts with support.</p>	<p>The Level 3 students are proficient in achieving or applying the science attitudes and knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core Standards. The students generally perform at the standard for their grade level and are able to engage in higher-order thinking skills for all science contexts with independence and minimal support. This level of science performance likely indicates students are on track to be sufficiently prepared for college or a career.</p>	<p>The Level 4 students are highly proficient in achieving or applying the science attitudes and knowledge/skills as specified in the Utah Core Standards. The students generally perform above the standard for their grade level and are able to engage in higher-order thinking skills involving all science contexts independently. This level of science performance likely indicates students are on track to be well-prepared for college or a career.</p>