



PARCC's governing board is comprised of the K-12 state school officers (or designees) from each of the governing member states. The board meets quarterly to make policy decisions related to the assessment system. Each governing member state agrees to participate exclusively in PARCC and administer the commonly developed assessments beginning with the 2014-15 school year. These states will also pilot and field test components of the assessment system during the development period. Currently, 24 states take part in the consortium; 18 of these states are governing board member states, 6 of these states (including Colorado) are participating states but not members of the governing board.

Pursuant to CAP4K, the state board must adopt assessments aligned with state standards. Several options have been considered by the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) when preparing this year's Long Bill. The funding options develop assessments on different schedules over the next few years. For FY 2012-13, the introduced version of the Long Bill funds the development of new assessments in science and social science (for administration beginning in FY 2013-14), and updates to the alternate assessment for special education and English language learners, but does not include appropriations for development of math, reading, or writing assessments. The eventual cost to develop and administer any new assessments (or portions thereof) must be addressed through the annual budget-setting process. This legislation is specific to the state's participation in a consortium effort to create a portion of the assessments needed to satisfy CAP4K.

### **State Expenditures**

There is no immediate cost to the state to join the PARCC consortium as a governing board member; however, participation will require some administrative effort by the CDE which can be met with existing resources. Once the final assessments are prepared, it is assumed the state will have additional costs to augment the assessments to include Colorado-specific content. For example, the state has standards for financial literacy (among others) that could be delivered as part of the consortium math and English language arts assessments. The actual cost to augment the consortium tests must be evaluated based on the consortium's final product. This increased cost, plus any others to develop, administer, score, and report state assessments, must be addressed through the annual budget-setting process, but are not required by this bill. For the purposes of this bill, no state appropriation is required in FY 2012-13.

### **Departments Contacted**

Education