Keystone Exams: Chemistry
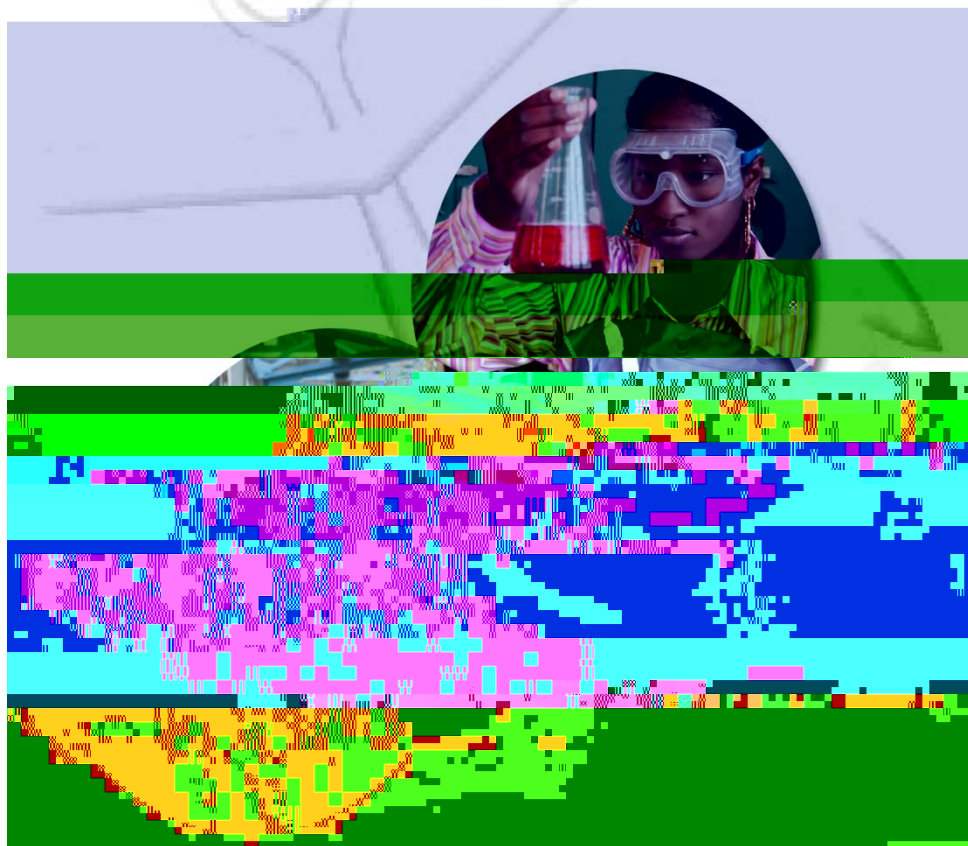# Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content

Pennsylvania Department of Education

2010

The Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content are designed to enable educators to determine when they feel students are prepared to be successful in the Keystone Exams. An evaluation of current course offerings, through the lens of what is assessed on those particular Keystone Exams, may provide an opportunity for an alignment to ensure student preparedness.

How are the Assessment Anchors organized?

The Assessment Anchors, as defined by the Eligible Content, are organized into cohesive blueprints, each structured with a common labeling system that can be read like an outline. This framework is organized first by module, then by Assessment Anchor, followed by Anchor Descriptor, and then finally, at the greatest level of detail, by an Eligible Content statement. The common format of this outline is followed across the Keystone Exams.

Here is a description of each level in the labeling system for the Keystone Exams:
- ¾ Module: The Assessment Anchors are organized into two thematic modules for each of the Keystone Exams. The module title appears at the top of each page. The module level is important because the Keystone Exams are built using a module format, with each of the Keystone Exams divided into two equally sized test modules. Each module is made up of two or more Assessment Anchors.
- ¾ Assessment Anchor: The Assessment Anchor appears in the shaded bar across the top of each Assessment Anchor table. The Assessment Anchors represent categories of subject matter that anchor the content of the Keystone Exams. Each Assessment Anchor is part of a module and has one or more Anchor Descriptors unified under it.
- ¾ Anchor Descriptor: Below each Assessment Anchor is a specific Anchor Descriptor. The Anchor Descriptor level provides further details that delineate the scope of content covered by the Assessment Anchor. Each Anchor Descriptor is part of an Assessment Anchor and has one or more Eligible Content unified under it.
- ¾ Eligible Content: The column to the right of the Anchor Descriptor contains the Eligible Content statements. The Eligible Content is the most specific description of the content that is assessed on the Keystone Exams. This level is considered the assessment limit and helps educators identify the range of the content covered on the Keystone Exams.
- ¾ Enhanced Standard: In the column to the right of each Eligible Content statement is a code representing one or more Enhanced Standards that correlate to the Eligible Content statement. Some Eligible Content statements include annotations that indicate certain clarifications about the scope of an eligible content.
  - o "e.g." ("for example")—sample approach, but not a limit to the eligible content.
  - o "i.e." ("that is")—specific limit to the eligible content.

What impact will the implementation of the K–12 Common Core Standards have on the content of this document?

It is anticipated that there will be significant alignment between PA's Academic Standards and the Common Core. Every effort will be made to ensure that the alignment of the standards to the Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content is maintained. As more information becomes available, PDE will inform state educators.

Standards Aligned System— http://www.pdesas.org/   Pennsylvania Department of Education— www.education.state.pa.us

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ASSESSMENT ANCHOR		
CHEM.B.1 The Mole and Chemical Bonding		
Anchor Descriptor	**Eligible Content**	**Enhanced Standard**
CHEM.B.1.1 Explain how the mole is a fundamental unit of		

Anchor

MODULE B—The Mole Concept and Chemical