

**2019 Reidy Interactive Lecture Series**  
**Improving the Selection, Use and Evaluation of Interim Assessments**  
 Draft Agenda

Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

Time	Topic
<b>8:30 AM</b>	<p><b>Welcome to RILS</b></p> <p>The Center for Assessment will welcome participants to the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Reidy Interactive Lecture Series and provide a brief overview of the conference.</p>
<b>8:45 AM</b>	<p><b>Setting the Stage</b></p> <p>During this session, the Center will describe the landscape of interim assessments, provide a working definition of interim assessments for the conference, and describe some common barriers to selecting and evaluating interim assessments.</p>
<b>9:45 AM</b>	<p><b>Purposes of Interim Assessments: Small Group Feedback and Discussion</b></p> <p>Working in small groups, participants will discuss issues faced by states, districts, and schools related to how interim assessments are used. The purpose of this discussion is to identify common challenges associated with selecting assessments (e.g., coherence), identifying desired assessment characteristics, and evaluating the impact and utility of interim assessment results.</p>
<b>10:45 AM</b>	Break
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<p><b>Case Study Discussion (60 minutes)</b></p> <p>During this session, a state and district leader, with a response from an expert discussant, will share their perspective related to the role or purpose of interim assessments and discuss what they see as the greatest challenge that needs to be addressed in order to ensure they add value and support. Discussion and comments will focus on the three themes of (1) design, (2) selection and implementation, and (3) evaluation of interim assessments and their use.</p>
<b>Lunch (60 Minutes)</b>	
<b>1:00 PM</b>	<p><b>The Importance of Coherence</b></p> <p>During this brief session, the Center will describe the need for coherence in assessment design, selection, and evaluation. The Center will also discuss a proposed <b>Assessment Coherence Tool</b> as a way to consider assessment coherence. The intent of this tool is to support state and district leaders consider the context, goals, and theory of action in which interim assessments may be useful and how their intended use informs interim selection.</p>
<b>1:15 PM</b>	<p><b>District Perspective: Panel discussion on Coherence in Assessment Selection and Design</b></p> <p>This session will highlight how a district considers the design and selection of interim assessments based on its unique context and identified information needs. Conversations will address their vision, how they intend to use assessment information, and how they specified high priority assessment selection criteria. The session will also include reflections from an invited discussant.</p>
<b>1:45-3:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Discussion and Refinement of the Assessment Coherence Tool</b></p> <p>During this session, participants will break into groups to explore scenario profiles which illustrate the type of information a district must compile in order to clarify their assessment needs and identify required assessment characteristics. Subsequently, each group will be asked to review the Assessment Coherent Tool and provide feedback about how/if it should be refined to help districts generate similar profiles. The goal of the Assessment Coherence Tool is to help users rapidly consider their context and needs so the assessment characteristics necessary to meet those needs are appropriately specified. Those characteristics will be further explored in the Assessment Characteristics Tool, which will be discussed later in the day.</p>
<b>3:00 PM</b>	Break

Time	Topic
<b>3:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Introduction to the Draft Assessment Characteristics Tool</b></p> <p>During this brief session, the Center will discuss the purpose, characteristics, and need for a proposed <b>Assessment Characteristics Tool</b> and discuss how it is intended to be used to support assessment selection and evaluation. The intent of this tool is to help state and district leaders' clarify and articulate the specific design, administration and reporting characteristics an interim assessment must demonstrate to meet the district's information needs in a manner that is consistent with its vision for teaching and learning as identified in the Assessment Coherence Tool.</p>
<b>3:30</b>	<p><b>Discussion and Refinement of the Assessment Characteristics Tool</b></p> <p>During this session, participants will again break into groups using the same scenarios as the previous activity. Each group will be asked to review the Assessment Characteristics Tool and determine whether the assessment characteristics identified for consideration are comprehensive and structured in a manner that help district leaders clarify their assessment needs and understand the type/range of evidence that should be prioritized when evaluating assessment quality.</p>
<b>4:30</b>	Closing Comments
<b>4:45</b>	Adjourn for Day 1
<b>5:15</b>	Welcome reception

Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>

Time	Topic
	<b>Evidence for Evaluating Technical Quality</b>
<b>8:30 AM</b>	<p><b>Overview of Day 1 and Discussing the Need for a Use and Utility Evaluation Tool</b></p> <p>During this session, the Center will make a case for ongoing evaluation of interim assessments to ensure they are adding value and being used and interpreted as intended. The focus of this session will go beyond the evaluation of an assessment itself, but also in how it is implemented and used by using program evaluation techniques to identify and avoid unintended consequences.</p>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<p><b>State and District Perspectives: Panel and Group Discussion on the Use and Utility of Interim Assessments</b></p> <p>This session will address the challenges associated with consequences and use of interim assessment information. Experts, states, and districts will be asked to describe their perspective on evaluating the implementation, utility, and impact of interim assessments and how operational constraints play a role. The Center will conclude this session by describing opportunities for developing a tool or framework that can help practitioners support the implementation of interim assessments.</p>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Break</b> (15 Minutes)
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<p><b>Developing Specifications for a Use and Utility Tool</b></p> <p>During this session, participants will break into groups to discuss the highest priority categories that could be used to evaluate the use of interim assessments and their associated information. Participants will be asked to consider their own experiences to help address evaluating the capacity and behaviors of people who are using interim assessment information to help avoid unintended consequences of misuse. The Center will take this feedback to develop a Use and Utility Tool, which will be shared with participants and others freely on our website.</p>
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Next Steps and Closing Comment
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Closing comments</b>