

Addendum: Nevada Opportunity Tax Credit Scholarship Report– February 6,2019

NRS 388D.280 requires that a scholarship organization which receives a donation, gift, or grant of money shall report the total number and dollar amount of such donations, gifts, and grants received as well as the total number of pupils for whom the scholarship organization made grants, as well as the schools enrolling scholarship students. The original submission of this report in November 2018 details such information and the February 2019 reissue includes a formal addendum with the results of student achievement data below.

While the report was originally submitted ahead of its January 31st deadline, a limitation of the data findings prevented a full student achievement analysis to be submitted with the report. The general findings on student achievement are included below.

Student Achievement Data

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) analyzed 149 student assessment results on six different assessments including: ACT Aspire, Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), Measure of Academic Progress (MAP), PSAT, Terra Nova, and Terra Nova 3.

NDE selected the sample of students based on consecutive number of years as a scholarship recipient so that longitudinal progress could be tracked across a single assessment for each student. Out of the 149 students assessed, 38 students participated in the same assessment for three consecutive years. Table 1 shows the test score changes for the reported 3 year participants, and Table 2 shows the test score changes for the reported 2 year participants. Table 3 shows this data broken out by individual assessment.

Approximately 68% of the 3 year participants demonstrated maintenance or growth in scores, and approximately 65% of 2 year participants demonstrated maintenance or growth in scores.

Table 1. Test score change for reported 3 year participants (N=38)

Score Change	# of students	Percent
Positive (maintained or raised score)	26	68.4%
Negative	12	31.6%

Table 2. Test score change for reported 2 year participants (N=111)

Score Change	# of students	Percent
Positive (maintained or raised score)	73	65.7%
Negative	38	34.2%

Table 3. Test score change s by assessment (N= 149)

Assessment	Total # Students	Decrease in Score	Maintain Score	Increase in Score
ACT Aspire	16	7	5	4
ITBS	23	7	14	2
MAP	15	0	8	7
PSAT	10	4	3	3
Terra Nova	33	10	10	13
Terra Nova 3	52	22	20	10

- Given the variation in score reporting formats and scales, results cannot be compared across different assessments. Each score was correlated with the assessment publisher’s corresponding norming and standardization tables, generating score measures that could be compared longitudinally.
- In Tables 1 and 2 student results that *maintained or increased grade-normed standing year-over-year* are in the ‘positive’ category.
- The sample size (N=149) is small in comparison to the total number of scholarship recipients due to the marked increase in student participation each year since the beginning of the program in 2015. Many students are new to the program and do not have multiple years of assessment scores to determine achievement.