To:	Florida Stakeholders
From:	American Institutes for Research
Date:	January 2017
Subject:	"Volume 3: Setting Achievement Standards" of the *2014–2015 FSA Technical Report*

In August 2015, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) convened a large and diverse group of Florida educators and stakeholders whose purpose was to determine performance standards for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). The panelists recommended standards indicating five Achievement Levels for each of the FSA assessments, including grades 3 through 10 English Language Arts (ELA), grades 3 through 8 Mathematics, and Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 End-of-Course (EOC) assessments. These recommended Achievement Level standards were subsequently presented to the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education for review and final approval.

Standard setting activities are typically performed when a new test is introduced or when major changes to an existing test have been implemented. The Achievement Level standards established for the FSA in 2015 represent the set of cut scores that will be continually applied to the FSA assessments over time, unless major revisions to the state standards or to the structure of the assessments themselves are implemented.

For this reason, "Volume 3: Setting Achievement Standards" of the *2014-2015 FSA Technical Report* is not one of the volumes that will be updated annually as is the case with other FSA technical reports. Only Volumes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 contain FSA-related activities that will change based on the administration year. The activities described in Volume 3, as well as the Achievement Level standards established within that volume, remain in place as fully described in the original volume; the original volume 3 will, therefore, not be updated as the activities documented in that volume remain relevant to the ongoing administration of the FSA. "Volume 3: Setting Achievement Standards" from the *2014-2015 FSA Technical Report* is available on the FDOE website (http://www.fldoe.org/).