Home Testing Device Setup

For the best remote testing experience, it is recommended that prior to testing, the test administrator spend time with the parent/guardian of the student verifying the device that will be used to take the assessment meets the following criteria.

Processor – A device no more than 4-5 years old

Memory –

- **iPad and Chrome OS –** 2 GB RAM or higher
- **Windows and macOS –** 4 GB RAM or higher

Available Disk Space – 1 GB or more

Screen Size – 9.5" or larger

Screen Resolution – 1024 x 768 or better

Speaker and Microphone – required (see chart on the following page)

Webcam (internal or external) – required

Network and Internet Connection –

- Wired or secure wireless network connection
- A personal secure Wi-Fi or a school sponsored Wi-Fi is allowed; other Wi-Fi connections are not permitted for security reasons
- Use a service, like speedtest.net, to identify that a ping speed of 20ms, upload speed of 5Mbps, and download speed of 10Mbps or better is available

Power Supply – Recommended that the testing device be plugged into a power supply, but if on battery power that the device have a fully charged battery with at least a two-hour power supply

Supported OS versions –

- **Chrome OS 84.x or above**
- **most current versions of Windows 10**
- **iPadOS v13.x or above**
- **most current versions of macOS**

Non-Supported OS versions – Linux OS devices are not supported

Supported Browsers – Google Chrome 83.x and above

Non-supported Browsers – Firefox, Internet Explorer, and Microsoft Edge

Technical support

If technical issues arise and/or if an error message is experienced during testing, parents/guardians are asked to contact the student's test administrator for technical support. If additional support is required, a school or district representative will contact Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) to determine a resolution. Parents/Guardians should not contact DRC directly.

Installing Google's Chrome Browser

Google's Chrome browser is required for remote testing. The test software will not function on any other internet-browser platforms. Chrome is a free browser. For step-by-step instructions for downloading and installing current version of the Chrome browser go to www.google.com/chrome.

Note: Using the Google Chrome public browser does not put the assessment in kiosk (lock-down) mode, so students are not prevented from toggling between the test and other materials on their device and/or the internet. For the accuracy

and integrity of the assessment results, it is important for students to stay within the test session and for the test administrator to monitor that students interact with only the test session throughout the test.

DRC Insight Readiness Check

Access www.DRCDeviceCheck.com to confirm the status of the student's testing device. This system provides integrated online help for quick responses to questions.

Headset recommendations

LAS Links Online Speaking requires the use of a microphone to record student responses, and therefore, has a microphone check built into the subtest. The following are recommendations designed to maximize the potential for testing success:

- Make sure the browser has the proper permissions enabled to access the microphone.
- Make sure your audio is not muted and the volume is turned up.

The following chart provides DRC's headset, microphone and speaker recommendations:

Configuration	Suitability		Pros and Cons
	Reading, Listening, & Writing	**Speaking**	
Over the ear headset with microphone	Ideal	Ideal	• Comfortable when worn for a longer time period by students of different ages. • Weight and size of headphones can be selected based on students' age. • Portable headphones are smaller and lighter and hence may be suitable for younger students. • Deluxe headphones are larger and heavier but have the advantage of canceling out more noise.
Noise cancellation headphones	Acceptable	Not applicable – there is no microphone	• Noise cancellation often does not cancel out the sound of human voices, so this feature provides little benefit. • Most of these devices do not have an integrated microphone so they cannot be used for speaking without providing a second device to capture audio responses during the speaking test. • Many headsets with a noise cancellation feature require a power source (e.g., batteries or USB connection).
Ear buds or ear headphones with microphone	Acceptable	Acceptable	• Sound volume can vary based on the positioning of the buds in the ear resulting in inconsistent audio playback. • Many ear buds come with the microphone attached to the cord, making capturing the student's voice more of a challenge.
Device speakers and device microphone	Marginal	Marginal	• Audio playback and audio capture built into devices generally do not offer very high fidelity, which can lead to poor response capture. • Speakers do not offer privacy during the test.
Bluetooth or wireless headsets	Not recommended	Not recommended	• To ensure test security, students should not use Bluetooth or wireless headsets.

Note: A microphone is only needed for the Speaking subtest.