



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## **PENNSYLVANIA CALCULATOR POLICY**

If a student chooses to use a calculator on the PSSA in sections where the calculator is permitted or on the Keystone Exams, the student must adhere to the guidelines listed below. It is incumbent upon the School Assessment Coordinator to ensure all calculator policies are implemented and followed, including making sure calculators have no programs stored in their memory other than those that are factory installed. Please note that if a student wants to restore the deleted programs, s/he must back them up prior to the assessment. In addition, the memory must be cleared on the calculator following each test session of the assessment.

The following are examples of devices that are **not** permitted for the PSSA or Keystone Exams:

- Non-calculators such as cell phones, smart phones, cameras, PDAs, laptops, minicomputers, pocket organizers, etc.
- Calculators with infrared, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, or other beaming or wireless capabilities, unless the beaming or wireless capabilities are disabled.
- Calculators with QWERTY keyboards, typewriter-like keyboards, or keypads (e.g., Dvorak).
- Calculators with built in Computer Algebra Systems—CAS.
- Calculators that make noise, have paper tape, need to be plugged in, or talk; these specific calculators can only be used as a required accommodation as stated in the Accommodations Guidelines found on the PDE website.
- Calculators shared by students during a test session.
- Any and all non-factory programs or information stored in the calculator.

This Calculator Policy is intended to be a general description of what is not allowed. It is not meant to be an exhaustive list of specific calculators, devices, or technologies that cannot be used on the PSSA or Keystone Exams.

- Please note as technology changes, this policy may also change.

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