Admins can develop basic quizzes or custom exams with TMS 2.0’s new Integrated Assessment Tool

VA’s upgraded version of its Training Management System (TMS), known as TMS 2.0, offers a new integrated approach for administrators to measure the impact of VA training. Scheduled for release in July 2018, TMS 2.0 will feature a new Integrated Assessment Tool that can set up and configure quizzes, exams, and questions – all within a single interface.

To begin, administrators choose to create either a quiz or an exam. Quizzes are knowledge checks to determine how well a learner is absorbing the materials as they complete their training objectives. Exams test a learner’s knowledge of the materials once they have completed the entire course.

The next step is to create questions for use within the quiz or exam, with some notable differences with each format. In both assessment types, the questions are built within the same interface. However, any questions built within the exam interface are automatically saved within a Question Library and can be used with other exams. Administrators can also add questions within an exam from those already existing in the Question Library. In contrast, quiz questions are only connected to their respective quiz and are not added to the Question Library.

Administrators will also have two new question types to choose from within TMS 2.0. In addition to the standard true/false, multiple choice (single answer), and multiple response (multiple answer) questions, they will now be able to create ordering and fill-in-the-blank questions. Many of the exam features available with the current TMS will also remain within TMS 2.0.

Other notable features of the Integrated Assessment Tool include:

- The ability to randomize answer order and question order
- The ability to control how learners progress through quizzes and exams, as well as what they can or cannot review when they have completed their quiz or exam

Important note on PQE: Old exams and questions that were developed within the Plateau Question Editor (PQE) will still be available within TMS 2.0. However, administrators will not be allowed to create new questions in PQE once TMS 2.0 is released in late July 2018.

Frequently Asked Questions

How is this new or different?
The new Integrated Assessment Tool creates a unified interface for creating quizzes, exams and questions.

How will this benefit me?
These assessment features will simplify an administrator’s process to create their questions, quizzes, and exams. The new interface will also eliminate prior computer configuration issues noted within PQE.

Where can I learn more?
New TMS 2.0 training, job aids and SOPs will be available a month before the upgrade. In the meantime, you can find the latest TMS 2.0 news on the TMS 2.0 "Slick Sheet" here, or join the discussion on our VA Pulse group. More technical information will be posted to the TMS Community of Practice (CoP) SharePoint site.

Recently Asked Questions

What happens to my old PQE questions and exams?
All questions and exams built within TMS will remain available in TMS 2.0. However, administrators will not be allowed to create new questions or exams in PQE.

Will my old questions be converted for use in the new Question Library?
This has not yet been determined. VA is exploring the available options for keeping old question for use within the Integrated Assessment Tool.
TMS 2.0 First Look: Integrated Assessment Tool

The screen above shows where an administrator chooses between creating a quiz or an exam.

These screens show the interface for creating a quiz (left) and an exam (right). Additional features of the new Integrated Assessment Tool include:

Quizzes
- Offer a fast and easy way to measure a user’s knowledge of a subject
- Cannot be used for objectives-based learning measurement
- Offer question-by-question remediation feedback
- Questions are built and stay within the quiz where they are created
- Questions are single answer, multiple answer, true/false, ordering, or fill-in-the-blank

Exams
- Include all Quiz features, as well as a deeper feature set for administrators
- Administrators can select questions from the Question Library
- Include full question and answer randomization, and are available for objectives-based learning measurement
- Questions can be built within exams and may be available to other exams
- Questions are single answer, multiple answer, true/false, ordering, or fill in the blank