Form of	Description	Administration
Assessment		

assessments can be used to draw conclusions that are appropriate and meaningful. Reliability is a measure of consistency. This means the assessment has consistent results regardless of who is scoring the assessment or when the assessment is administered. A reliable assessment will produce the same results on re-test and will produce similar results with a similar cohort of students, so it is consistent in its methods and criteria<sup>1</sup>. Assessment tools that are valid and reliable will have research-based evidence verifying the validity and reliability.

## A Note Regarding Locally -Created Assessment Tools

If a school district chooses to use a locally-developed assessment, it must partner with an organization, typically, a university, to go through the psychometric process (typically two years of developing targets of measurement, performance level descriptors, field testing, data review, evaluation, and analysis of resulting field test scores) to deem the assessment valid (measures what it is supposed to) and reliable (consistent scoring results). As per Commissioner's Regulations 151 -1.3(b), until a school district's locally developed assessment is deemed



## An Introduction to Valid and Reliable Screening and Assessment Tools for NYS Administered Prekindergarten Programs

School districts are required by Commissioner's Regulations (Part 117.3) to develop a plan for the screening of all new Prekindergarten entrants using a valid and reliable screening tool. The purpose of this screening is to determine which students are possibly gifted, are suspected of having a disability, and/or level of English proficiency. The screening must be conducted by appropriately trained or qualified staff, and in the student's