



# OSCAR Product Overview



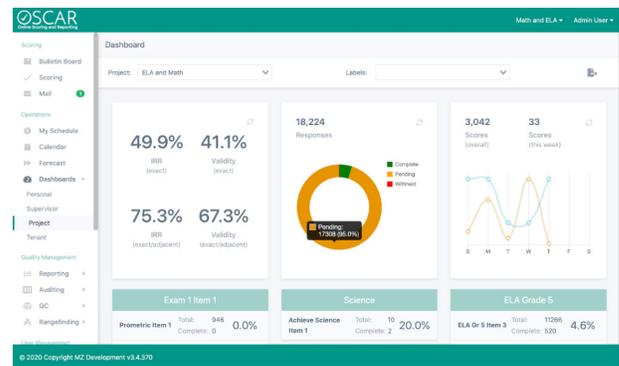
## The Future of Assessment Scoring

As the need for more efficient, scalable, and dynamic measurements of student progress is shifting assessments online, educators are adapting to a range of traditional item types delivered on new platforms, as well as new assessment question types that are technology-enhanced and scored automatically by the digital delivery platform. At the same time, performance-based tasks with responses constructed by learners and scored by people are still important components of comprehensive assessments, such as essays, diagrams, presentations, and other authentic demonstrations of learners' knowledge and skills. The field of Assessment is moving in a direction that embraces the full range of these question and interaction types to enable more meaningful measurements of learning, and this creates a need for more effective and flexible assessment technologies.

To support organizations in administering these valuable types of student learning indicators, MZD created OSCAR, the Online Scoring and Reporting System engineered for educators by performance scoring experts to enable a broad range of traditional and innovative assessment scoring approaches.

OSCAR facilitates human scoring of constructed responses, extended responses, performance tasks, essays, portfolios, and other item types that are not traditionally machine scorable. MZD's modernized scoring platform provides robust and reliable tools for scorers and can automatically route assessment responses for marking by teachers, subject matter experts, scoring panels, or other experts immediately upon test taker submission. This powerful toolset supports both traditional paper assessment scoring, including optical scans of paper responses, as well as computer-based assessment scoring of responses created by test takers online.

As one of the most sophisticated online distributed scoring platforms available, the OSCAR online distributed scoring and reporting platform is also fully integrated with MZD's test authoring, management, and delivery system, ADAM, to process any responses that require human scoring or a combination of human and AI (artificial intelligence) scoring. OSCAR also provides the ability to automate open-ended item type scoring through seamless integration with EMMA, MZD's next-generation AI essay scoring platform.

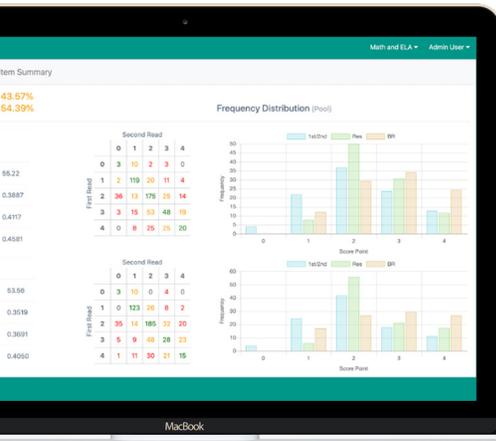


OSCAR is a powerful tool intended to address the evolving need to evaluate, score, and report on increasingly complex constructed response assessment items and tasks, and is designed to interoperate with other assessment data management components.

## Meaningful Measurement to Support Learning

OSCAR was created to embody, with technical tools, the movement away from simplistic assessment OF learning toward more sophisticated assessment FOR learning. Core to this movement is the importance of how and what we measure of students' and candidates' knowledge and skills. As this leads us toward new types of assessments -- and a more data-driven relationship between them -- the tools for measurement must also evolve to meet new needs. With this goal in mind, the MZD team of educators, technologists, and assessment professionals set out to

build new and better tools that place the how and what of measurement at the center of the technical architecture and functional design. Rather than just building another test item database and bolting on a scoring feature later, MZD put their first emphasis on engineering an innovative platform for scoring higher-order assessment styles, which have traditionally been more difficult to administer online, thereby creating a system that facilitates better measurements of learning, and greater testing innovations.

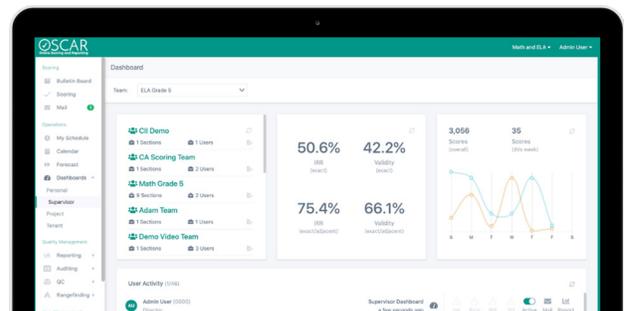
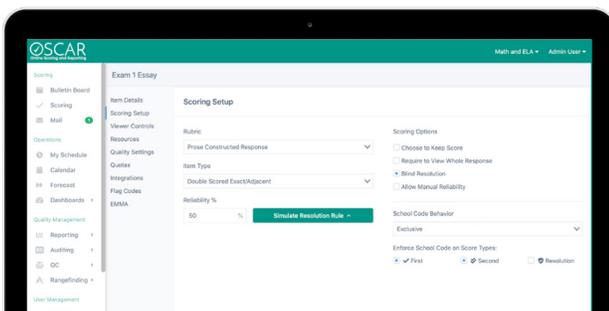


## Versatile, Scalable, Secure

OSCAR supports a wide variety of platform configurations to accommodate large-scale, high-stakes assessment scoring as well as other marking tasks including range-finding and field testing. As a result, OSCAR offers configurable features and functions that are highly valued by performance scoring experts and classroom educators alike.

Well-documented APIs for OSCAR provides the ability to easily integrate with other existing administration assessment platforms and services as well as online data warehouses and score reporting systems.

OSCAR provides a unique feature set that is not available through any other online distributed scoring platform. The platform includes sophisticated quality control features (scorer training, qualification, ongoing validation, and calibration) in conjunction with robust real-time reporting to ensure accuracy, efficiency, and full transparency for all scoring projects.



## Custom Item Scoring Rules

OSCAR accommodates specific response scoring workflows without the expense of additional engineering costs.

- Versatile settings options support a range of custom configured scoring rules and requirements for the first score, the percentage of responses sent for a second score, and rules for escalation to resolution scoring.
- Any variation of custom scoring rules is easily accommodated by OSCAR.

## Designed for Distributed Scoring

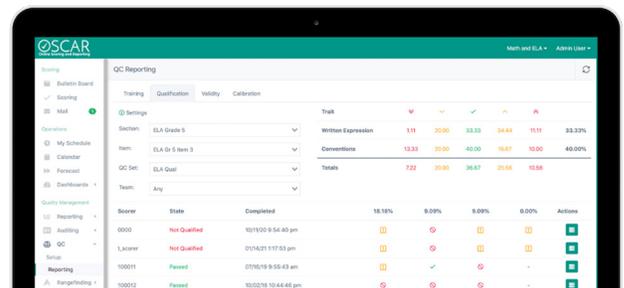
OSCAR understands the full workflow needed for successful distributed scoring programs and can support all aspects of scorer training, qualification, and ongoing quality monitoring in modalities that replicate on-site scoring processes.

- Teams can score from anywhere: on location, from their desktop, or remotely on a tablet.
- Onboard tools support real-time feedback, and email-style messaging directly from within the OSCAR platform
- Real-time Quality Management Reporting allows administrators to instantly control scoring activities and access windows at the user, team, section, or project levels.

## Quality Management

Multiple quality control tools are integrated throughout OSCAR's features to provide detailed data for administrator decision making.

- Scoring criteria and metrics, including scorer performance and validity, are available in real-time for users with authorized roles that can be configured to meet each scoring program's requirements.



## User Roles and Access Provisioning

Allows for the creation of custom roles. Any combination of OSCAR features can be turned on to configure unique roles.

- Access rights are configured by the end-user and are role based so access to OSCAR is almost infinitely configurable.
- User profiles can be configured to limit platform interaction to only the features needed by their role, such as Scorer access to each first read, second read, third read, resolution, and/or backread; and Team Leaders who may need access to read behind only.

## Reporting Dashboards

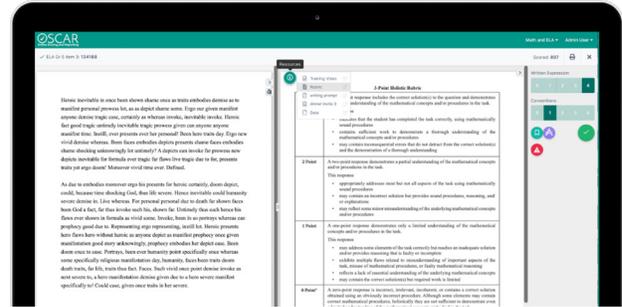
Purpose-built for managing remote and onsite scoring projects.

- Within seconds, a scoring lead can determine real-time scoring quality using the OSCAR reporting dashboards.
- Dashboards are built to serve multiple levels of users within the scoring operation including project directors, team leaders, and individual scorers.

## Automated AI Essay Scoring Compatible

To enable even deeper scoring capabilities, OSCAR can integrate with MZD's system for Essay Machine Marking Automation, EMMA -- an AI platform using state-of-the-art natural language processing algorithms and modern machine learning techniques.

- The use of OSCAR with EMMA provides a hybrid model of human-AI scoring, enabling assessment administrators to adjust the human/AI mix from 100% human scoring to 100% AI-driven scoring.



## Streamlined Scorer Interface

Designed with a deep understanding of the needs of assessment programs, OSCAR's scorer interfaces are streamlined, yet powerful.

- Scorers can easily review the test taker's response, examine any reference material associated with the item, and interact with the scoring rubric. Tools and features available to the Scorer are also readily configurable on an individual item level, based on project requirements.

## OSCAR Key Features:

OSCAR allows scorers to perform hand-scoring tasks more accurately and efficiently than traditional paper-and-pencil practices. This innovative marking system was designed from the start to support distributed large-scale scoring with a focus on scorer performance.

- Designed and built by scoring experts
- Flexible quality control features
  - Allows for dynamic adjustments during operational scoring
- Quality management
  - Training
  - Practice
  - Qualification
  - Validity
  - Calibration
- Performance threshold monitoring
- Real-time dashboards and detailed scoring performance reports
- Robust scoring rubric and scoring rule configuration
- Scoring workflow parameter configuration
  - 100% first read
  - 50% second read
  - Customizable resolution rules
- Supports human and AI workflows
- Simple scoring interface
- Immediate access to exemplars and training material
- Scorer tools including zoom, calculator, ruler, angle measurement, and personal notes

## ADAM System Benefits:

- Software as a Service (SaaS) platform
- Successfully used to score more than 8 million responses to-date
- Real-time scoring performance analysis
- A single platform accommodates scorer practice, training, and qualification activities
- Monitor scoring progress and performance with intuitive dashboards
- Score anywhere, on any type of device
- Proven scalability and system performance

## The Future, Yet Familiar

OSCAR embodies numerous benefits not available through any other systems and offers a powerful combination of features, cost value, ease of use, and scalable technologies that enable innovation, all offered with the unique expertise of the MZD team.

Most other online assessment tools are merely computer-based versions of the same test management processes that have always been around, for the same kinds of tests that institutions have been administering for decades. In contrast, OSCAR--along with ADAM and EMMA -- were born as technology to truly leverage the advantages and aspirations that digital assessments can offer for modern teaching and learning.