

# Secure Browser Support Plan

## Updated for the 2013–2014 School Year

This Secure Browser Support Plan establishes clear guidance to provide consistency and allow districts to anticipate which operating systems (OS) AIR’s secure browsers will support. This document is to help schools and districts manage support requirements and allow for both product and information technology planning in organizations based on knowledge of the support timelines. This plan also helps leverage advantages that are available through emerging technologies which are otherwise not possible, while also continuing to support legacy platforms. The support statuses included in this plan are consistent with the anticipated statuses communicated in the 2012–2013 plan.

AIR will support an OS for 10 years after release or until the software company stops supporting its OS, whichever is earlier. Status changes take effect every summer to avoid disruptions in testing during Oregon’s testing window(s). To ensure districts have sufficient notice to respond to any status changes, ODE will update this document annually. ODE will develop an advisory group to review all change to support status anticipated to occur within the next four school years. Table 1 reflects all OS that are supported for 2013–2014, as well as anticipated changes to support status and information regarding online testing functionality.

*Table 1. 2013–2014 Status of Operating Systems Supported for Secure Browsers*

Supported OS/Devices	Release Date	Anticipated End of Support Date	2013–2014 Status		Secure Browser Version	Notes
			Support	Functionality		
<b>Desktops/Laptops</b>						
<b>Mac 10.4 (PPC &amp; Intel)</b>	April 2005	<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Limited</b>	Full	5.6	
<b>Mac 10.5 (PPC)</b>	Oct. 2007	<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Limited</b>	Full	5.6	
<b>Mac 10.5 (Intel)</b>	Oct. 2007	<b>Spring 2014</b>	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Mac 10.6</b>	Aug. 2009	Spring 2019	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Mac 10.7</b>	July 2011	Spring 2021	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Mac 10.8</b>	July 2012	Spring 2022	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Windows 2000</b>	Feb. 2000	<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Limited</b>	Full	6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NeoSpeech™ voices do not work on Windows 2000; use default Windows voices</li> <li>- ELPA will not be supported on Windows 2000 computers.</li> </ul>
<b>Windows XP (SP3)</b>	Oct. 2001	Spring 2016	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Windows Vista</b>	Jan. 2007	Spring 2017	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Windows 7</b>	Oct. 2009	Spring 2020	Full	Full	6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Braille Interface is supported (requires JAWS)</li> </ul>
<b>Windows 8</b>	Oct. 2012	Spring 2022	Full	Full	6.2	

Supported OS/Devices	Release Date	Anticipated End of Support Date	2013–2014 Status		Secure Browser Version	Notes
			Support	Functionality		
<b>Desktops/Laptops</b>						
<b>Windows Server 2003</b>	April 2003	Spring 2015	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Windows Server 2008</b>	Oct. 2009	Spring 2019	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Windows Server 2012</b>	Sept. 2012	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	
<b>Linux Fedora Core 6+ (K12LTSP 4.2+)</b>	Nov. 2007	Spring 2017	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Linux Red Hat</b>	May 2005	Spring 2017	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Linux Ubuntu 9–12</b>	Oct. 2009	Spring 2019	Full	Full	6.2	
<b>Netbooks</b>						
<b>Chrome v.18+ / Chromebooks</b>	Feb. 2013	TBD	Full	Full	N/A (uses secure login)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Requires secure testing login to access online testing features, including Text-to-Speech (Computer-Based Read-Aloud)</li> <li>- ELPA is not supported</li> </ul>
<b>Tablets*</b>						
<b>iOS 6.0, 6.1 / iPad 2, 3 and Retina Display</b>	Sept. 2012, Jan. 2013	TBD	Full	<b>Limited</b>	no version #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not support Text-to-Speech (Computer-Based Read-Aloud)</li> <li>- ELPA is not supported</li> <li>- Recommend students use external keyboard to override touch-screen keyboard</li> </ul>
<b>iOS 7.0 / iPad 2, 3 and Retina Display</b>	Sept. 2013	TBD	Full	<b>Limited</b>	no version #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not support Text-to-Speech (Computer-Based Read-Aloud)</li> <li>- ELPA is not supported</li> <li>- Recommend students use external keyboard to override touch-screen keyboard</li> </ul>
<b>Android 4.0–4.2 / Google Nexus 10 Motorola Xoom Motorola Xyboard Samsung Galaxy Note (10.1) Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 (10.1)</b>	Oct. 2011, July 2012, Nov. 2012	TBD	Full	<b>Limited</b>	no version #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ELPA is not supported</li> <li>- Recommend students use external keyboard to override touch-screen keyboard</li> </ul>

\* Please note that the tablets listed for iOS and Android operating systems are the only ones currently supported. These devices have been tested explicitly for use with the mobile secure browser and the Test Delivery System. Other tablets will not be supported for the 2013–2014 testing year.

## Support Levels

AIR provides two levels of OS secure browser support: full support and limited support. A description of what full support and limited support entails is included below.

### Full Support

Full support means that AIR will provide secure browser updates for these OS in the event that the OS has been updated or as bugs are discovered. The secure browsers will be actively supported to keep them current with changes made to the OS. Full support applies for those OS that are currently supported by their companies (e.g. Windows supported by Microsoft).

- Major version upgrades to an OS released **before May 1** will be supported and AIR will provide a secure browser for that OS version for that upcoming school year (e.g., an OS upgrade released during April 2014 will be supported for the 2014–2015 school year).
- Major version upgrades to an OS released **after May 1** will not be supported and AIR will not provide a secure browser until the following school year (e.g., an OS upgrade released during June 2014 will not be supported until the 2015–2016 school year).
- The mobile secure browsers for supported tablets will be updated as necessary to provide support for new online testing features or to fix bugs encountered as a result of OS version upgrades.

Software companies do not always provide end-of-life support information. As a result, AIR caps support at 10 years from the time an operating system was released to the public. If the parent company ends its support of an operating system, AIR will also stop supporting that system after one full school year.

### Limited Support

Limited support means that AIR will not provide updates to the current secure browser(s) for operating systems designated as having limited support. User support will be provided. Limited support applies to OS that are no longer supported by their parent companies. One year after the parent company has withdrawn support from an OS, AIR will not include that operating system in considerations for future development.

For 2013–14, Windows 2000 will receive limited support. Windows 2000 reached the end of its lifecycle in July 2010, and Microsoft no longer provides security updates or fixes for this OS.

## Functionality Levels

Most operating systems have full functionality. Many netbooks and tablets provide students with necessary access to the operational and practice tests. However, some features are currently unavailable on supported netbooks and tablets as a result of operating system limitations. As a result, two levels of online testing functionality are available for supported operating systems. A description of what full and limited functionality entails is included below.

### Full Functionality

Operating systems that have full functionality are those that support all online assessments and features, including accommodations. These operating systems support ELPA testing and the Text-to-Speech (Computer-Based Read-Aloud) accommodation, provided the computers have the appropriate software.

Please note that Windows 7 continues to be the only operating system that supports the Braille Interface. In the event that JAWS is made available for other operating systems, AIR will test the Braille Interface on those platforms.

**Limited Functionality**

Operating systems that have limited functionality are those that are unable to support all online assessments and features, including accommodations. At this time, mobile tablets and Chromebooks do not support ELPA testing. Apple’s iPads do not support Text-to-Speech at this time; therefore, students who have the Computer-Based Read-Aloud accommodation should not test using iPads.