Does the assessment address issues related to administration, scoring and the assessment format?

Assessment developer should	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an assessment does not meet this criterion?
Provide detailed and clear instructions if test users will administer and score the assessment. If applicable, indicate if there are specific qualifications or training experiences needed to administer and score the assessment.	Ensure that all individuals administering and scoring the assessment receive instructions provided by the assessment developer. If applicable, ensure qualified or trained individuals are available to administer and score.	Logistics and required training time should be considered when making decisions to use a particular assessment. Training of the following individuals might be necessary: • Individuals administering assessments, completing rating scales, or conducting observation may need training on how to complete the assessments. • Individuals compiling and reporting data may need training on developer recommendations for reporting, interpretation, and use. • Individuals who will use and communicate findings might also need training such as how to communicate findings to students and families. Some assessments require that those administering and/or scoring an assessment have certain qualifications such as a degree, graduate coursework, or specific formal training. Even if an assessment does not have requirements for administration and scoring, consider guidance that encourages standardized administration and scoring for comparable scores.	If requirements for administration and scoring are unaddressed in the assessment documentation, ask the assessment developer for more information. Do not use the assessment if qualified individuals are not available or training of individuals to administer and score the assessment would not be possible.

Does the assessment address issues related to administration, scoring and the assessment format?

Assessment	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an
developer should			assessment does not meet
			this criterion?
If the test developer	Ensure that the basis for	Some test developers will use automated means	If there is insufficient
administers or scores	administering items and/or	for administering or scoring assessments that	information about how the
the assessment,	generating scores aligns with	often involve algorithms.	assessment is administered
describe the process	definitions for SEL		and scored, ask the
for conducting the	competencies and supports	Algorithms for scoring assessments or selecting	developer for more
assessment and/or	local plans for interpretation	items can be very technical, but developers should	information.
the procedure used	and use.	be able to explain conceptually how the algorithm	
for generating scores.		works.	If administration and scoring
			procedures are not
		This conceptual explanation will help indicate	appropriate for the local
		whether the assessment's administration and	setting, student population,
		scoring procedures are appropriate for the local	or SEL program, find
		setting and SEL program.	another assessment.
Indicate if specific	Ensure that the all settings	If administering an assessment via a	If the required devices or
technological devices	(e.g. schools) administering	technological device, there likely are	software are not available,
and software to	the assessments have access	requirements for the devices and type of software	find another assessment.
administer and/or	to required or recommended	available on those devices.	
score the assessment	technological devices and		If not all settings
are required or	software.	Differences in mode (e.g. paper and pencil vs.	administering the
recommended.		computer-delivered), device (e.g. desktop	assessment have access to
		computer vs. tablet), or operating system (e.g.	recommended technological
		Windows vs. Macintosh) could differentially affect	devices and software,
		how assessments are completed by respondents	• find another assessment,
		and compromise score comparability.	• do not use the assessment
			in those settings, or
			• request evidence from the
			assessment developer that
			differences in devices or
			software used to
			administer or score the
			assessments will not
			affect score comparability.

If assessment scores are determined using norms...

Assessment developer should	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an assessment does not meet this criterion?
Report norms should be:	Ensure the norm study and	Norm samples should include and	If the norm sample is not
• based on a recent,	sample is:	document:	current, is not of sufficient
representative sample	• current (gathered in last 5-7		size, or does not represent
of sufficient size,	years),	 A proportional representation of 	students from different
• document the	• of sufficient size (500 or	students from different demographic	demographic groups relevant
demographics of the	more total and 100 or more	groups (note number of English Learners	to the local population,
students included in	per grade/age group),	in the sample).	ask the developer about
the sample (e.g.	• gathered from a setting		the availability of updated
gender, age/grade,	similar to the local setting,	• The relevant setting in which a norm	and relevant norm
race/ethnicity, SES,	and	sample was administered the	information,
geographic location),	• collected from a student	assessment.	• do not use the norm-
and	sample that includes		referenced scores for
• describe the setting in	representation of the local	For example, norms developed using a	reporting or decision-
which the norm data	student population (e.g.	predominately students from urban high	making, or
were gathered.	gender, race/ethnicity, SES,	school would not be relevant for rural	• find another assessment
	geographic location).	middle school students.	with applicable norms.

If there are multiple forms (different versions) for an assessment (e.g. Forms A & B)...

Assessment	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an assessment
developer should			does not meet this criterion?
Provide evidence of score consistency across the different forms.	Determine if the evidence supports that scores from different forms of the assessment are comparable.	Equating is a commonly used technical process that establishes scores are interchangeable across different versions of a test.	Only use one form of the assessment if there is insufficient evidence that scores from multiple forms would provide consistent results across students.
		Equating samples need to be large and representative of the population under consideration for assessment.	

Does the assessment address issues related to administration, scoring and the assessment format?

If the assessment is a completed by a student...

Assessment developer should	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an assessment does not meet this criterion?
Indicate how development or administration of the SEL assessment addresses common issues such as memory bias, social desirability bias, or reference bias.	Determine if the developer has provided convincing evidence or rationale that the SEL assessment is not susceptible to these biases.	 Memory, social desirability, and reference biases are common issues to address in the development or administration of assessments where the student is the respondent. • Memory bias occurs if respondents are not aware or accurate in the assessment of their SEL behaviors or actions. • Social desirability bias involves the respondent providing an answer considered attractive instead of what is true for him/her. • Reference bias are responses affected by whom respondent compares his/her SEL competence. Such as, if an assessment has consequential decisions for students, they also may not be inclined to answer accurately. 	If there is insufficient evidence or rationale for how potential biases were addressed or mitigated in development or administration, • ask the assessment developer for more information, or • ask a small group of potential respondents or individuals familiar with respondents to review items and determine if these biases could be problematic.

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If the assessment is a rating or observation scale completed by someone other than the student...

Assessment developer should	Test user should	Explanation	What to do if an assessment does not meet this criterion?
Provide evidence that the administration and scoring protocol will lead to consistent decisions across different raters/observers (interrater reliability) and avoid or mitigate potential biased ratings	Use recommended training and protocols to avoid or mitigate biases. Determine if interrater reliability is acceptable (Kappa or Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC) statistic of .70 or higher).	 These types of assessment should provide evidence of interrater reliability because some teachers might rate differently than other teachers across items/tasks or students. Common rating issues include: Inclination to rate students they "like" more positively than other students (halo effect). Use more leniency or severity in ratings. Misinterpret/misattribute sources of behavior. Rating accuracy affected if respondents have a personal or professional stake in the results of the assessment (e.g. evaluate teacher performance). Such disparities would affect the consistency across raters. Therefore, these types of assessments should provide instructions on how to help raters/observers overcome these response biases. For example, training observers on actual students, vignettes or videos with discussion of differences in ratings may be quite productive for calibrating ratings. 	If there is insufficient information about how to avoid or mitigate rater response bias, • ask assessment developer for more information, or • ask a small group of potential respondents to review items and determine if these biases could be an issue for them or others. If there is insufficient evidence of interrater reliability or interrater reliability is considerably below .70, • ask the assessment developer for more information, • consider more training for raters/observers, or • find another assessment.