Glenn Ledder* (gledder@math.unl.edu), Department of Mathematics, 203 Avery Hall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0130. Assessment using online assignment management systems.

The online assignment management system EDU was originally developed by John Orr, of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and is now marketed as Maple TA. The Department of Mathematics uses EDU for repeatable, high-stakes, pass-fail exams in some of its courses and also to administer the Mathematics Placement Exam to incoming students. Online assessment via EDU offers three significant advantages over paper assessment. First, grading is immediate and nearly instantaneous. Second, the system allows for the use of questions containing randomized parameters with correct answers determined algorithmically, thereby eliminating most problems with cheating. Third, the assessment can be done in a computerized testing center managed by people who are not mathematicians or faculty. These advantages come at a cost: writing good mathematics questions can be difficult, and administration can be unwieldy. The author has accumulated considerable experience in the use of online assignment management and will share lessons learned during that experience. (Received September 27, 2005)