



Wisconsin Student Assessment System

Updated Asset-Based Performance Levels

After extensive engagement with internal and external education partners, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is updating terminology used to describe student performance levels on statewide standardized assessments. Performance level descriptors provide information to parents, guardians, educators, and others about student achievement relative to grade-level expectations.

The terms **developing**, **approaching**, **meeting**, and **advanced** will replace outdated terms on student standardized assessment reports. This update promotes academic potential, engagement, and growth at every level, and improves feelings of encouragement and motivation among students. These terms were last updated in 2014, and will be used for the Forward Exam, as well as school, district, and state secure and public reports for the Forward Exam, ACT and PreACT Secure.



The DPI received overwhelming support from Wisconsin educators, administrators, parents, families, and education partners in a survey. Most responses indicated the need to update performance levels to better reflect the academic performance of Wisconsin students.

Detailed information on updated performance levels:

Advanced

The student demonstrates a thorough understanding of the knowledge and skills described in the Wisconsin Academic Standards for their grade level and is on-track for future learning.

Meeting

The student is meeting the knowledge and skill expectations described in the Wisconsin Academic Standards for their grade-level and is on-track for future learning.

Approaching

The student is approaching the knowledge and skill expectations described in the Wisconsin Academic Standards for their grade-level needed to be on-track for future learning.

Developing

The student is at the beginning stages of developing the knowledge and skills described in the Wisconsin Academic Standards at their grade-level needed to be on-track for future learning.

For more information about the required statewide assessments, [visit the DPI website](#).

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