Assessment

Reminder:

Verify Student Data

DPI will load student data from WISEdata into the DRC INSIGHT Portal (Forward) and PearsonAccess^next (ACT with writing and PreACT Secure). To ensure that you have the correct roster of students for testing, please make certain that your student enrollment and demographic data are correct in WISEdata before the **end of the day on January 25**.

Accountability

New:

2023-24 JFN Preliminary Release

The preliminary release of the Joint Federal Notification (JFN) packets is planned for **late-February 2024**. This release will include preliminary versions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) accountability reports. The specific date of the release will be announced in a future DAC Digest.

As a reminder, this new timeline differs from years past, in which the preliminary JFN release typically took place in December. Please see the December 6 DAC Digest for more information on this updated timeline.

For more information and resources on ESSA Accountability, please visit the OEA Federal ESSA Accountability page. If you have questions about ESSA accountability, please contact oeamail@dpi.wi.gov. For questions regarding IDEA accountability, please contact the Special Education team.

ACCESS for ELLs

Reminders:

Test Window Closing

The ACCESS for ELLs test window will close on **Friday, February 2**. Please ensure that all students have completed all sections of the assessment by the end of that school day.

Materials
All materials are due back to DRC on or before Tuesday, February 13. Please ensure that UPS picks up your materials by Friday, February 9 to meet this deadline.

ACT

New:
Verify Student Rosters in PearsonAccess^{next} - January 29-31
On January 26, DPI will load school ACT student rosters into PearsonAccess^{next}. Testing staff will have from **January 29-31** to verify that student enrollment is correct and indicate testing mode for each student (paper or online). DPI and ACT will send out detailed instructions via email on how to complete this task. Instructions and resources can also be found under Step 2, Configuration: Verify Enrollment Counts on the Wisconsin ACT webpage.

Accommodations Reconsideration Deadline - February 2
The reconsideration deadline for accommodations and English learner supports is February 2. This deadline applies to **reconsideration requests only**. If you have an initial request where ACT has issued a decision notification that requires further review, please submit the request for reconsideration no later than February 2. For assistance, please see Requesting Reconsideration (TAA User Guide).

Educator Involvement Opportunity
DPI is recruiting a diverse group of Wisconsin educators to establish cut scores for the ACT in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science. These cut scores are independent of ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks and are used for state accountability. The Standard Setting will be an in-person, two-day meeting held in Madison on July 10-11, 2024. For more information about this opportunity and instructions on how to apply, visit the DPI ACT Educator Involvement Opportunities webpage.

PreACT Secure

New:
Student Roster Upload
DPI will load PreACT Secure student rosters into PAnext on January 26. On January 29, schools can begin verifying rosters and assigning accommodations. DPI and ACT will send out detailed instructions via email on how to complete these tasks the week of January 29. Instructions and resources can also be found in the Step 2, Configuration: Verify Enrollment Counts on the Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage.

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PreACT Secure - Test Administration #1 Training Webinar
PreACT Secure training begins on Tuesday, January 30 (10:00am) with the Test Administration #1 Training. All DACs and Test Coordinators are encouraged to attend and share training opportunities with other staff. Registration and meeting links for the trainings and office hours are posted to the Wisconsin PreACT Secure Training webpage. All training webinars are recorded. Office hours are not recorded.

Reminder:
PearsonAccess^{next} Opened January 22
On January 22, the PreACT Secure portal opened within PearsonAccess^{next} (PAnext) for the spring 2024 administration. DACs have access through the assessment drop down menu using their existing PAnext account credentials. DACs will need to create accounts and grant user access to the PreACT Secure portal for all testing staff. Instructions on how to create accounts and/or update existing accounts can be found in the PersonAccess^{next} User Guide for the PreACT Secure.

DLM

New:
Test Preparation Steps to be Completed by February 23
In order to prepare for the spring administration of the DLM, districts should complete the following four critical tasks by February 23.

- Create teacher user accounts and ensure security agreements have been accepted
- Complete teacher training
- Roster students
- Complete First Contact Surveys and Personal Needs and Preference Profiles

Contact Mike Peacy with any questions related to the DLM and preparation for the 2024 administration.

Reminder:
Learning Map Review
DLM is seeking science curriculum experts, special educators, and science educators across all grade levels in Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Physical Science, to serve on expert panels to review new science learning map neighborhoods for the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment. If you are interested in participating, please complete the survey by the end of the day on Wednesday, February 7. This is not a commitment to attend or a guarantee of participation. If you would like more details, please contact Mike Peacy.

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Forward Exam

New:

Forward Exam Q&A webinar
On February 7 at 12:30 pm, the second of three optional Q&A webinar sessions will take place (see the Forward Exam Calendar webpage for third Q&A webinar date). This webinar is an opportunity for District and School Assessment Coordinators (DACs/SACs) and District and School Technology Coordinators (DTCs/STCs) to ask DPI and DRC staff questions about Forward Exam test set-up, administration, or technology that may have come up after reviewing the training videos and other resources. Please share this information with your DTCs, SACs, and STCs. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the Forward Exam Trainings webpage for those who cannot attend the live session. To join the webinar on February 7, please use this Forward Exam Q&A webinar session Zoom link.

ELA Test Design and Short Write Tasks Information and FAQ
We appreciate the questions from Districts regarding the new ELA test design and short write tasks. These topics are discussed in detail in the DAC/SAC Training and the Test Administrator Trainings available on the Forward Exam Trainings webpage. There is also a handout available on the Forward Exam Resources webpage that explains the changes and provides answers to common questions about the short write tasks. Share this handout with your educators. We have also included the short write task FAQs on the Forward Exam Frequently Asked Questions webpage. DRC is currently creating the rubrics for these new item types. OEA will notify DACs as soon as draft rubrics are available and posted to the Forward Exam Resources webpage. Rubrics will not be finalized until the ELA Rangefinding meeting in April.

Optional Add Accessibility Features Window Begins February 12
During this optional window (February 12-23), districts may use the Multiple Student Upload process to upload designated supports and accommodations for multiple students at one time into the DRC INSIGHT Portal. This two-week optional window is the only time this method of uploading accessibility features is available. As a reminder, Text-to-Speech is now a Universal Support for all students and does not need to be assigned in the Portal. If you choose not to take advantage of the window, you may still enter supports and accommodations into the DRC INSIGHT Portal on an individual student or "mass assign" basis as needed, beginning March 4. Instructions for all three processes are available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide.

Read Aloud (Human Reader) Accommodation Prior Approval
The Read Aloud **accommodation** is different from the Read Aloud **designated support**. The accommodation is only available to a student with visual impairments who is receiving instruction in contracted braille but not yet proficient, and whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan. The student must meet all five criteria on the Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form for the Forward Exam. If a student requires the Read Aloud accommodation and meets the criteria stated on the form, the

DAC must submit a Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form to the Office of Educational Accountability. DPI will review the request, and if approved, activate the process. After receiving DPI approval, the DAC must assign the accommodation in the DRC INSIGHT Portal for the student prior to printing test tickets. Students who do not meet all criteria but require Read Aloud (a human reader) should use the Read Aloud designated support.

NAEP and International Assessments
(for schools selected to participate in 2023-24 assessments only)

New:
NAEP Assessment Window Opens Monday, January 29
The NAEP assessment window opens next week. Each school has one assigned test date in the window of January 29 to March 8, 2024. NAEP School Coordinators should be finalizing the Assessment Planning Tasks in the NAEP Assessment Management nagSystem (AMS); all tasks need to be completed before the school's test date. NAEP field staff are following up with individual schools to provide support in completing remaining tasks. DACs can review the progress of most of the tasks in the NAEP AMS, but will not have full access to all the tasks unless they are also designated as the School Coordinator. Please contact Angela Dugas if there are any questions.

Reminder:
NAEP High School Transcript Study Closes Next Week
The NAEP High School Transcript Study (HSTS) data collection is open in the NAEP Assessment Management System (AMS). HSTS Coordinators will complete the course catalog submission and the transcript information survey, which are open through **Wednesday, January 31**. Please notify Angela Dugas as soon as possible if a high school needs an extension on this deadline. The last step of the HSTS is the student transcript submission which will open in the summer of 2024.

See the NAEP webpage for grade levels and content areas assessed, dates, additional information, and resources; and contact Angela Dugas with any questions. If there are issues with the NAEP AMS, please contact the NAEP Help Desk at NAEPHelp@westat.com or (800) 283-6237. To reset your password for the NAEP AMS, click "Learn more about how to log in" and then click "Forgot password".

Reading Readiness

New:
Update on Act 20 Reading Legislation
Deputy State Superintendent John Johnson sent an email to all District Administrators on Tuesday about the ACT 20 reading legislation that was recently signed into law. These requirements will go into effect beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

Reminder:
For detailed information about requirements for screening go to the [Assessment of Reading Readiness Overview webpage](#).

New Resources

As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience for a few weeks. This is NOT an exhaustive list but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.

Resource	Description	Assessment
[DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide](#)	Helps DACs, SACs and other users manage user permissions, student information, and testing responsibilities in the DRC INSIGHT Portal.	Forward
[Test Administration Manual](#)	The TAM provides information for Test Administrators (TAs) in order to successfully administer the Forward Exam.	Forward
[Forward Exam Practice Test](#)	Students should be given the opportunity to practice with the online Forward Exam Practice test as new tools and functionality have been included.	Forward
[DAC/SAC Training](#)	Required training for all DACs/SACs that did not attend the in-person training sessions in November.	Forward
[Test Administrator (TA) Training](#)	Required training for all TAs and covers all information TAs need to prepare for and administer the Forward Exam. DACs should ensure that all TAs view this training.	Forward
[Student Transfer Request for ACCESS for ELLs form](#)	Request transfer of students into your district.	ACCESS

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Important Dates to Remember

Be sure to refer to each specific assessment calendar for a complete list of key dates.

Date	Event	Program
January 25	Verify student enrollment and demographic data in WISEdata	Forward, ACT, PreACT Secure
January 26	Additional Materials window closes	ACCESS
January 29	NAEP testing window opens (for selected schools only)	NAEP
January 29 -31	**Verify ACT Student Rosters in PAnext**	**ACT**
January 29	Student Rosters available in PAnext -- begin entering accommodations and EL supports	PreACT Secure
January 30	Attend PreACT Secure Test Administration #1 training	PreACT Secure
January 31	NAEP High School Transcript Study submissions due (for High Schools participating in NAEP 2024 only)	NAEP
February 2	Test window closes	ACCESS
February 5	Begin creating and assigning students to test sessions	ACT
February 6	Attend PreACT Secure Office Hour	PreACT Secure
February 12-23	Optional Add Accessibility Features window	Forward
February 12	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1 (early date selection)	ACT
February 12	Begin training ACT testing staff	ACT
February 13	All materials must be received by DRC for scoring	ACCESS
February 13	All materials must be received by DRC for scoring	ACCESS
February 19	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1	ACT
February 21-29	Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window	ACCESS

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Date	Event	Program
February 23	Verify Users and students are updated in Educator Portal	DLM
February 23	Verify students are rostered and First Contact Surveys complete	DLM
February 23	Verify Teachers have completed their trainings	DLM
February 26	Paper testing order window opens	PreACT Secure