



The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

October 22, 2025

Accountability

Reminder:

2024-25 Preliminary Secure Report Cards

The window to open an inquiry with the Office of Educational Accountability (OEA) closed on October 13. At this time, OEA staff are working with schools and districts that opened inquiries to resolve them and make manual corrections in the report cards. As a reminder, **scores and ratings are subject to change** based on updates resulting from the inquiry period. The data that are finalized in the report card inquiry process will be used in both state and federal (both ESSA and IDEA) accountability systems.

The public release of final school and district report cards is scheduled for **November 11**. These report cards will include redaction to protect student privacy. At that time the public school and district report cards results will be widely available.

As a reminder, we have posted [report card resources](#) to guide your review of the preliminary report cards and assist with local report card interpretation and messaging. If you have questions about report cards, please [contact OEA](#).

Assessment

WIDA ACCESS

New:

Materials

Materials will be delivered on November 21. Please inventory what you receive and store them in a secure location. At that time, the Additional Materials window will open for any paper materials you need beyond the initial delivery.

Reminders:

Rostering

On October 23, we will upload the final roster, and at the end of the day the private school Pre-ID upload window will also close. At that time, DRC will create material orders and print labels for all students uploaded to the WIDA AMS. Test setup will open on October 30.



Training

Training for all WIDA assessments is available in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#). All staff involved in assessment must recertify annually on the test activities they are involved in. This year, the WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten has undergone a substantial revision for the first time in more than a decade. Please ensure that staff who are administering this assessment have completed all training prior to the start of the test window.

ACT

New:

2026 ACT Resources

The following 2026 ACT administrative resources have been posted to the [Wisconsin ACT webpage](#):

- Schedule of Events (Important Dates)
- What's New (step 1)
- Technical Requirements (step 2)
- Technical Coordinator Checklist (step 2)
- Technical Guide (step 2)
- Administration manuals (step 5)
- Test Coordinator Information Manual (step 5)

New Test Coordinator Office Hour

ACT and DPI will be hosting an Office Hour on Tuesday, October 28th for new test coordinators. This Office Hour will provide a general overview of the ACT administrative processes, websites, training opportunities, resources and general FAQs. Please share this training opportunity with all new staff or any legacy staff who would like a refresher training. Visit the [ACT Training webpage](#) for registration information.

PreACT Secure

Reminder:

2026 PreACT Secure Resources

The following 2026 PreACT Secure administrative resources have been posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#):

- Schedule of Events (Important Dates)
 - Technical Requirements (step 2)
 - Technical Coordinator Checklist (step 2)
 - Technical Guide (step 2)
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DLM

Reminder:

Please visit the [DLM webpage](#) for information, resources and dates.

Forward Exam

Reminder:

Register Now - Forward Exam 2026 DAC Training

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) invite District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) and up to three additional assessment staff members (e.g., School Assessment Coordinator, Assistant to DAC) to attend an **in-person training** event for the spring 2026 Forward Exam. Identical trainings will be held in different locations across the state November 3-7 and run from 9 am to 2:30 pm each day. **An email with registration information was sent to all DACs on September 26. Registration must be completed no later than October 24.**

If you are unable to attend, it is recommended that your district still send up to three additional staff to hear the information provided at the training.

NAEP

(for selected districts and schools only)

Reminder:

New: NAEP School Coordinators and Assessment Dates

All schools should have a designated NAEP School Coordinator to serve as the main point of contact, and that person should be identified in the NAEP AMS. Assessment dates will be sent to schools and posted on the NAEP AMS in November.

See the [NAEP webpage](#) for information and resources. Please contact [Angela Dugas](#) with any questions.

Reading Readiness – Early Literacy Assessment

New:

'Student Not Tested' Indicator Released October 23

On October 23, Pearson will release an indicator within the aimswebPlus platform that allows users to indicate when a student has not tested on an Act 20 screener as well as the reason why (for example, absent, advanced to diagnostic, etc.). Marking a Student Not Tested (SNT) reason is optional for the Fall 2025 administration. SNT statuses marked after October 24 may not be included in the results shared

with DPI. SNT status with a reason will be required beginning with the 2025 – 2026 mid-year administration. Release Notes and accompanying screenshots can be found on the [aimswebPlus Help Site](#).

Reminders:

Pearson Connecting Districts to WISE

As a reminder, it is a requirement that districts roster students in 4K-3 through WISE. Pearson is connecting districts to WISE who may not have been connected at the start of the school year. If a district was already rostering through a third-party vendor (e.g., Clever, Classlink), then data will be flowing from both WISE and the third-party vendor. If you have any questions about the data you're seeing in WISE or aimswebPlus, please reach out to either the WISE Help Desk or Pearson aimswebPlus Customer Support using the contact information below.

- [WISE Help Desk](#) (608) 267-9115
 - Loading rostering data from a Student Information System (SIS) to WISEdata
 - Viewing rostering data in WISEdata
- [Pearson aimswebPlus/Customer Support](#) (866) 313-6194, option 2
 - Viewing rostering data in aimswebPlus
 - Loading staff and class data from a third party source
 - Viewing and exporting score results in aimswebPlus

Professional Learning Opportunity

Reminder:

Professional Learning Webinar Series: Writing-Rich Classrooms

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), in partnership with [The Greater Madison Writing Project \(GMWP\)](#) and Wisconsin educators, have developed instructional resources informed by research-based practices promoted by the [National Writing Project](#) (NWP), which are now available on the DPI website. [The Writing-Rich Classrooms units](#) utilize high-impact instructional practices to provide a variety of opportunities for young people to develop their skills as writers and thinkers.

In addition to these units, a three-part professional learning webinar series has been developed to support the implementation of these resources by articulating how units can be integrated into classroom instruction to encourage students to **“Write routinely for a range of culturally sustaining and rhetorically authentic tasks, purposes, and audiences over extended time frames (time for inquiry, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames.”** (Wisconsin Standards for ELA, 2020.)

These webinars will include writing project consultants from around Wisconsin and DPI ELA and Literacy Consultants. We welcome teachers, teacher leaders, and administrators supporting writing instruction in grades 3-8.

When: Wednesdays: October 29, and November 12, 4-5 pm. (Please sign up for each webinar separately using the links below. All webinars will be recorded and posted to the DPI website.

- [Session two](#) - October 29
- [Session three](#) - November 12

Please contact [Bianca Williams-Griffin](#), ELA Consultant, with questions.

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
ACT Technical Resources	Direct link to Wisconsin ACT website for all technical resources.	ACT
ACT Administrative Manuals	Direct link to the Wisconsin ACT website for all administrative manuals.	ACT
PreACT Secure Technical Resources	Direct link to Wisconsin PreACT Secure website for all technical resources.	PreACT Secure
ACT Flexible Testing Policy	New ACT policy that allows for alternative testing schedules.	ACT
Preparing for ACCESS Testing	Resources to prep for ACCESS Testing	ACCESS
NAEP Facts for Districts	Overview of NAEP 2026.	NAEP

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
October 23	Final ACCESS roster uploaded to WIDA AMS Materials orders and labels generated.	ACCESS

Date	Event	Program
October 24	Deadline to register for the 2026 Forward Exam in-person DAC training.	Forward
October 28	ACT Office Hours - New Test Coordinator Overview.	ACT
October 30	WIDA AMS Test Setup available.	ACCESS
Early November	NAEP test dates available for schools selected to participate	NAEP
November 3	PersonAccess ^{next} opens for 2026 ACT.	ACT
November 3-7	In-person DAC trainings.	Forward
November 4	ACT accommodations training webinar	ACT
November 10	Technology User Guide available	Forward
November 21	Materials delivered; Additional Materials window open	ACCESS
December 1	Test Window Opens	ACCESS
December 5	Technology Training Videos available	Forward



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<https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/correspondence>

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