



The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

October 29, 2025

Accountability

Reminder:

2024-25 Preliminary Secure Report Cards

The window to open a report card 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.

Any updates resulting from the inquiry period will be reflected in the final secure report cards, which are scheduled to be released on Thursday, November 6. Please be on the lookout for an email from ReportCardHelp@dpi.wi.gov announcing that the final secure report cards are available in SAFE (the Secure Access File Exchange) on the day of the final secure release.

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](#), including Communicating with Your Community, 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:

K-ACCESS Observations

To assess the implementation of the new K-ACCESS and to support their continuous improvement activities, WIDA is looking for schools willing to allow them to do classroom observations of this year's administration. Staff from both WIDA and the Center for Applied Linguistics will be doing site visits during testing, and recording audio of some students as they take the test. For more information, please



see the 'WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten Audio Recordings and Observations' section of [WIDA's Building a WIDA Assessment webpage](#).

Reminders:

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.

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 PAnext Portal Opening

The 2026 [ACT PearsonAccess^{Next} \(PAnext\) portal](#) will open on **November 3**. At that time, DACs will receive access to the portal and instructions on how to set up additional testing staff. New DACs who currently do not have a PAnext user account will receive a separate email with instructions on how to create their PAnext account. Previous DACs will not receive an email from PAnext, but will automatically have access to the portal under their existing login credentials.

Testing Date Selection Survey

To ensure DPI has your correct testing window and delivery mode (paper/online) on file, ACT will send a Test Date Selection Survey to all School Test Coordinators and DACs on November 10. Only one survey per school should be completed. The deadline for completing the survey is December 19. Please contact [Nikki Braconier](#) if your school does not receive the survey link by Monday, November 17.

Note: The survey will be emailed out from statetesting@operations.act.org. Please work with your technology team to ensure this email address has been added to the safe senders list.

Training - Accommodations Webinar

ACT and DPI will be hosting the 2026 ACT Accommodations training webinar on Tuesday, November 4. This training will cover ACT accommodations, the Test Accessibility and Accommodations system (TAA) resources and general FAQs. Please share this opportunity with Test Accommodations Coordinators and other applicable staff. Visit the [ACT Training webpage](#) for registration information.



Reminder:**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)
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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:**

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

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:

Act 20 Screening Fall Administration Completed

The fall 2025 Act 20 administration completed on October 24. Thank you to all districts who helped make this fall 2025 administration a success. We appreciate the partnership with districts and look forward to the mid-year administration starting in just over one month.

Multi-Source Rostering Class Cleanup

Districts who have chosen a multi-source rostering method for Act 20 (using WISE and a third party vendor, like Clever or Classlink) may have noticed the import of classes from both WISE and the third party vendor. Pearson has recently made an update such that if class data are present in both sources, only the data from the third party vendor will be imported. Pearson will begin working through each multi-source district to remove classes imported from WISE, and may reach out to your district if there are questions or assistance is needed.

Mid-Year Testing Begins December 1

As a reminder, the mid-year administration for Act 20 screening window will be December 1 – January 30. This is a great time to review rostering data in aimswebPlus and ensure your district is set up for success. Information about administering aimswebPlus assessments and additional resources can be found on the [Wisconsin aimswebPlus Act 20 website](#) as well as the [aimswebPlus Help Site](#).

Reminder:

'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](#).

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 [The Writing-Rich Classrooms units that](#) utilize high-impact instructional practices to provide a variety of opportunities for young people to develop their skills as writers and thinkers. A three-part professional learning webinar series has been developed to support the implementation of these resources.

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

Resource	Description	Assessment
Preparing for ACCESS Testing	Resources to prep for ACCESS Testing	ACCESS

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
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 10	ACT Test Date Selection Survey sent to School Test Coordinators and DACs	ACT
November 18	Office Hours - Accommodations and EL Supports	ACT
November 21	Materials delivered; Additional Materials window open	ACCESS
December 1	Test Window Opens	ACCESS
December 2	ACT Test Administration #1 webinar	ACT
December 5	Technology Training Videos available	Forward



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