



# The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

October 30, 2024

## Assessment

### Reminder:

#### **Free Assessment Professional Development and Coaching Series - Spaces Still Open!**

The Office of Educational Accountability and CESAs are offering a free Assessment Professional Development and Coaching Series.

**CESAs are recruiting and looking for more districts to participate!** Additional information and contact information for each CESA is on the [Free Assessment Professional Learning and Coaching Series website](#). Please share this information with district leaders.

Each CESA will provide professional learning and four in-district coaching sessions. Districts can participate in the entire series or attend one or more of the topics listed below based on interest. In addition to this free learning, a one-time stipend will be provided for participating districts.

Professional Learning topics include:

- Assessing Student Learning: Classroom Assessment and Data Analysis (required prerequisite to all other sessions) - three days in-person learning or online learning option
- Performance Tasks - four days in-person learning
- Formative Assessment Practices - four days in-person learning
- Educator Created Interim Assessment - four days in-person learning

Last year was a great success with over 620 educators and leaders participating from 65 districts across the state. Visit the [Free Assessment Professional Learning and Coaching Series website](#) to watch a short video in which participants share their experiences and learning highlights from the series. Contact [Lauren Zellmer](#) with questions.

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## Accountability

### Reminder:

#### **2023-24 School and District Report Cards**

The window to open an inquiry with the Office of Educational Accountability (OEA) closed on October 14. 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 19**. 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. If you have questions about report cards, please [contact OEA](#).

## New:

### Trend Graphs in the Assessment Analysis Dashboard

The DPI Data Warehouse team has added trends graphs to the Assessment Analysis dashboard in WISEdash for Districts so that users can see trends by ELA or mathematics across assessments. Be aware, because of the standards change, if you choose a school year that is part of the old standard (pre-2023-24) you will see performance levels for the prior four years. If you choose a year under the new standard (presently only 2023-24), you will only see performance levels for 2023-24 and future years (when they become available).

You can learn more about this dashboard on the [Assessment Analysis About the Data page](#). If you have any questions or need any help, please create a [WISEdash Help Ticket](#) and someone will get back to you.

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## ACCESS for ELLs

### New:

#### Training

As a reminder, staff must recertify annually on the portions of the assessment they are administering. Training is available in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#), and you can view individual staff members' training status there.

### Reminder:

#### ACCESS Rostering

Test session management will open on October 31.

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## ACT and PreACT Secure

### Reminder:

#### Important ACT Test Administration Platform Update

Previously, ACT announced they will be transitioning their test administration platform from PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> (PANext) to ACT Now. They have recently communicated to DPI that **the Wisconsin**

ACT and PreACT Secure will be administered through PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> for spring 2025 as they needed additional time for a successful transition to ACT Now in future years. Review the [October 22 ACT Program email](#) for additional information.

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## ACT

### New:

#### 2025 PAnext Portal Opening

The 2025 [ACT PearsonAccessNext \(PAnext\) portal](#) will open on **November 4**. Once open, DACs will receive access to the portal and instructions on how to set up additional testing staff and select the school's testing date and mode of testing (paper/online).

Note: 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.

#### 2025 Testing Manuals and Resources

The following 2025 ACT testing resources are now available on the [Wisconsin ACT website](#). DACs should disseminate these resources out to testing staff and ensure all resources are reviewed annually for test administration updates.

- 2025 ACT Schedule of Events - Important Dates
- What's New Document - Step 1
- PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> User Guide - Step 1
- Technical Guide, Specifications and Mock Administration Guide - Step 2
- Accessibility Supports Guide and additional accommodation resources - Step 4
- Test Coordinator Information Manual and all test administration manuals/forms - Step 5

#### Wisconsin ACT Office Hours

The first of five scheduled Wisconsin Specific Office Hours will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 1:00-2:00pm. This office hour will provide a brief overview of the ACT assessment for new staff alongside an open Q&A forum. Visit the [DPI ACT Training webpage](#) to register for this event.

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## PreACT Secure

### Reminder:

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

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## DLM

### Reminders:

#### Update Users and Rosters

It is important that teachers have appropriate access to the Educator Portal to ensure students are rostered correctly and teachers can view student score reports. Teachers also use the Educator portal to complete First Contact Surveys and the year-long training.

#### Alternate Assessment Participation Rates Now Available

The spring 2024 alternate assessment participation rates for each LEA are now available for viewing in WISEgrants, DPI's web-based Federal Grants Management system. [Accessing the Alternate Assessment Participation Rates in WISEgrants](#) provides step-by-step instructions for viewing an LEA's alternate assessment participation rates. Any WISEgrants Administrator or WISEgrants User with view or edit access to an LEA's ESEA or IDEA grants will be able to access the alternate assessment participation rate webpage. If you need assistance finding the information in WISEgrants, please send an email request to [ideafiscal@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:ideafiscal@dpi.wi.gov).

Under ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), the number of students who may take an alternate assessment in English language arts (ELA), mathematics or science is limited to no more than 1.0 percent of the total number of all students in the state who are assessed in a given subject. If an LEA exceeds the 1.0% participation threshold in any subject, the LEA must submit information to DPI justifying the need to assess more than 1.0 percent of its assessed students using an alternate assessment.

## Forward Exam

### Reminder:

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

## NAEP and International Assessments

*(for schools selected to participate in 2023-24 and 2024-25 assessments only)*

### New:

#### Updates for Each NAEP Assessment in Bold

Each of the NAEP assessments this year have different timelines and tasks. DACs can review emails from [Angela Dugas](#) or look at the NAEP Assessment Management System ([NAEP AMS](#)) to confirm which of their schools are in each assessment program. DACs who have not already registered for the NAEP AMS and would like to can contact [Angela Dugas](#) for a registration link.



Here's a summary of where we are in each of the NAEP assessment programs (**new updates in bold**):

NAEP Assessment	Test Window	Task Summary
LTT age 13	October 7 - December 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-assessment activities in the AMS should be completed before testing begins.</li> <li>The testing window is now open; each school has one test date within the window.</li> <li><b>If the participation rate on test day is low, a make-up test may be scheduled.</b></li> </ul>
LTT age 9	January 6 - March 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Principals received an email on October 24 with information about designating a NAEP School Coordinator.</b></li> <li><b>The <i>Provide School Characteristics</i> section of the AMS should be completed by October 31.</b></li> </ul>
LTT age 17	March 17 - May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Principals received an email on October 24 with information about designating a NAEP School Coordinator.</b></li> <li><b>The <i>Provide School Characteristics</i> section of the AMS should be completed by January 10.</b></li> </ul>
Field Test (grades 4, 8, and 12)	January 27 - March 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On October 10, DACs were notified which of the schools from phase 1 are selected for phase 2. Schools selected for phase 2 will participate in the assessment using <i>either</i> NAEP devices or school devices.</li> <li>On October 11, principals in schools selected for phase 2 were notified. Principals should designate a NAEP School Coordinator who will register for the NAEP AMS and complete the <i>Provide School Characteristics- Grade Information</i> section <b>by October 31.</b></li> <li><b>For schools using school devices, designated NAEP Application Installers were emailed on October 24. A follow-up email from the NAEP system will be emailed to installers by November 1.</b></li> </ul>

See the [NAEP webpage](#) for information and resources. Contact [Angela Dugas](#) with any questions. For help with the [NAEP AMS](#), contact the NAEP Help Desk at [NAEPHelp@westat.com](mailto:NAEPHelp@westat.com) or (800) 283-6237.

# Reading Readiness – Early Literacy Assessment

## Reminders:

### New/Updated Resources Available – aimswebPlus

New and updated resources have been added to the [aimswebPlus Wisconsin website](#) within the Content section.

- The [Multilingual Learners FAQ](#) has been updated to include both general and measure-specific questions related to testing in Spanish.
- Content FAQ - Recently updated to include information on Oral Reading Fluency in grades 1-3 and the “at risk” criteria for Act 20. Also updated to include information on off-grade level testing last week.

### Training and Support - aimswebPlus

AimswebPlus is offering districts opportunities for learning and support around administering the early literacy assessment this fall.

- Office Hours Support - Available online through December 10 every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 3:30pm CST, and 2nd and 4th Thursday at 11:30am CST.
- aimswebPlus Customer Forum – Held on the second Wednesday of most months starting on November 13. Districts will need to register to participate in the Customer Forum using this [online registration form](#).

### Early Literacy Assessment Window - aimswebPlus

The mid-year screening window for the aimswebPlus Early Literacy Assessment opens on December 1, 2024 and concludes on January 31, 2025. FAQs are located at the bottom of each section within the [aimswebPlus Wisconsin website](#). The Rostering FAQs and the Training FAQs can help answer questions districts may have as they prepare for administration.

Questions about the aimswebPlus literacy screener, personal reading plans, and district early literacy remediation plans should be sent to [early.reading@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:early.reading@dpi.wi.gov). Visit the [WI reads webpage](#) or the [ACT 20 Early literacy webpage](#) for more information.

## 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
<a href="#">What's New Document</a>	Document outlining new items for the 2025 ACT assessment.	ACT

Resource	Description	Assessment
<a href="#">ACT Schedule of Events</a>	Resource outlining important dates, tasks and deadlines for the 2025 ACT assessment.	ACT
<a href="#">PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> User Guide</a>	Guide to help users navigate and perform tasks within the PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> administrative platform.	ACT
<a href="#">ACT Administration Manuals</a>	Manuals provide administrative and policy information to administer the ACT assessment to fidelity.	ACT
<b>Updated:</b> <a href="#">ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing</a>	Resource containing all technical specifications and guidelines for administering the ACT on PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> .	ACT
<b>Updated:</b> <a href="#">PreACT Secure Technical Guide for Online Testing</a>	Resource containing all technical specifications and guidelines for administering the PreACT Secure on PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> .	PreACT Secure

## Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
October 7 - December 13	NAEP LTT age 13 test window ( <i>selected schools only</i> )	NAEP
October 31	WIDA AMS/DRC Insight Test Setup opens	ACCESS
October 31	NAEP Field Test Phase 2 schools designate a School Coordinator, register for the NAEP AMS, and complete the Provide School Characteristics- Grade Information section ( <i>selected schools only</i> )	NAEP
October 31	NAEP LTT age 9 schools designate a School Coordinator, register for the AMS, and complete the <i>Provide School Characteristics</i> section ( <i>selected schools only</i> )	NAEP
November 4	PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> portal opens for spring 2025 testing	ACT

Date	Event	Program
November 6	ACT/PreACT Secure Office Hours	ACT/PreACT Secure
November 14	2023-24 Report Cards Final Secure Release	Report Cards
November 19	2023-24 Report Cards Public Release	Report Cards
November 22	Districts receive materials, Additional Material Ordering Window opens	ACCESS



This publication is available from:  
 Division of Student and School Success  
 Office of Educational Accountability  
 (608) 267-1072

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

October 2024 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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