



The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

December 10, 2025

Assessment

Reminder:

District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Confidentiality Agreement

DACs from districts administering the WIDA ACCESS who have not already completed the 2025-26 [DAC Confidentiality Agreement](#) should do so now and submit to OEA as soon as possible. The form may be completed electronically and signed electronically using Acrobat Reader. Be sure to read the terms for each assessment and **select only the boxes that apply to your district** on the ACT/PreACT Secure agreement prior to signing. The entire document needs to be submitted to OEA once signed. If your district is not administering the WIDA ACCESS for 2025-26, be sure to submit your form by March 1. All other confidentiality forms (SACs, DTCs, STCs, etc.) may be completed electronically and once completed are to be retained at the school/district level.

WIDA ACCESS

New:

Testing Update

WIDA ACCESS testing is going well with more than 40% of the online tests already completed. Thanks for making this an incredible start to the testing season.

Reminders:

In-State Transfers

If a student transfers in from another Wisconsin district, please use the [Student Transfer Request form](#).

Materials

The Additional Materials ordering window is now open for any materials you may need beyond the initial order. Please consolidate Additional Materials orders under the 'District-Level Additional Orders' site rather than under individual schools. See the DRC broadcast email on November 14 for ordering instructions.



ACT

New:

Testing Date Selection Survey - Due December 19

ACT sent a Test Date Selection Survey to all School Test Coordinators and DACs on November 10. DPI uses this survey to collect your testing date, testing mode (paper/online) and test materials receipt week. If you have not completed the survey yet, please do so by December 19. If you cannot locate the survey link in your email, please contact [Nikki Braconier](#). Only one survey per school needs to be completed.

Reminder:

ACT Practice Tests

New versions of the Enhanced ACT practice tests are now available in both paper and online formats. Links to the new practice tests and the 2026 Preparing for the ACT guides have been posted to the [DPI ACT Practice Tests and Sample Items webpage](#).

PreACT Secure

New:

2026 Test Administration Forms

The test administration forms have now been posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#) (Step 5).

Reminder:

2026 Test Administration Manuals

The following test administration manuals are posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#) (Step 5):

- PreACT Secure Test Coordinator Information Manual
 - PreACT Secure Online and Online Accommodated Test Administration Manual
 - PreACT Secure Paper Accommodated Test Administration Manual
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DLM

Reminder:

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



Forward Exam

New:

Update for Adding 2026 Accessibility Features in the DRC INSIGHT Portal

For those who attended the in-person District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) trainings, DRC presented about adding accessibility features in the updated DRC INSIGHT Portal. After a considerable amount of feedback from DPI and DACs, DRC has reinstated the ability to add accessibility features for an individual student through the accommodations tab under Participant Management in the Portal. This is great news and allows districts to add accessibility features for a single student to all content areas at one time, as it was done in past years. Directions for this will be in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide that will be available in January.

2026 DRC INSIGHT Portal Permissions

DRC has assigned DACs permission to access the 2026 DRC INSIGHT Portal. DACs can begin assigning permissions to other users now or wait until January 2026. Information about how to assign users will be provided in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide, available on January 6. Established DACs who do not see the 2026 administration in the Portal or new DACs who did not receive the email from 'noreply@datarecognitioncorp.com' with the subject line "Your DRC INSIGHT Portal Account Has a New Profile", please contact the DRC Help Desk at (800) 459-6530.

Technology Training Videos

The Forward Exam District Technology Training Videos are now available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements and Resources webpage](#). There are four short videos that cover all information District Technology Coordinators (DTCs) need to know about technology updates, requirements, Central Office Services installation/management, and the set-up of student testing devices.

Forward Exam Educator Involvement Opportunities

In the summer of 2026, DPI will bring Wisconsin educators together to review all new test questions created for the Forward Exam for content, grade level appropriateness, alignment to correct standard, cultural inclusivity, and bias/sensitivity issues prior to placement on the exam. New Item Review is an important step in the development of the Forward Exam. This is a great opportunity for educators to be a part of assessment development, provide valuable feedback, have detailed input about the items on the Forward Exam, and take knowledge back to your district about the process.

DPI is now accepting applications from Wisconsin educators to participate in the 2026 in-person New Item Review meetings. Eight applicants will be selected for each of the content areas (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science) and grade levels/spans. DPI is looking for a diverse group of educators from all over Wisconsin (including EL and special education teachers). More information, including how to apply, is available on the [Forward Exam Educators Involvement webpage](#). Please share this information with your fellow educators.

NAEP

(for selected districts and schools only)

New:

Student Lists Posted and Preassessment Tasks Open in the NAEP AMS

The lists of students sampled to take NAEP have been posted in the [NAEP AMS](#). In addition, the preassessment tasks are now open in the NAEP AMS. Preassessment Responsibilities Guides were emailed to NAEP School Coordinators last week. These guides outline the NAEP preassessment tasks including scheduling a planning meeting with field staff, reviewing the student list and providing updates to student information including accommodations, determining assessment logistics, and managing questionnaires. Additional instructions are available for each task on the NAEP AMS and field staff will support School Coordinators in completing tasks.

Grade 12 Best Practices Guides

The Best Practices Guides for Supporting Twelfth-Grade NAEP Participation were emailed to high schools earlier this week. The guides contain materials to help promote 12th grade participation in NAEP. School Coordinators were copied on the emails. In the weeks leading up to the assessment window, Principals and School Coordinators in high schools will receive three follow-up emails with links to specific sections and strategies in the guides.

Application Installers for Schools Testing on School Devices

For schools participating in NAEP using their school devices, Application Installers need to be identified in the NAEP AMS as soon as possible. Once identified in the NAEP AMS, Application Installers will receive an email with more information about installing the NAEP application onto school devices. The application should be installed by December 31.

Reminder:

Field Staff Contacting Schools

NAEP field staff representatives have begun contacting School Coordinators. the week of December 8. If a school has not yet identified a School Coordinator, the principal will be designated in that role. Updates to this role can be made directly in the [NAEP AMS](#).

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



Reading Readiness – Early Literacy Assessment

New:

Updated Act 20 Rostering Guide Released

An updated [Act 20 Rostering Guide](#) has been posted on the [Wisconsin Act 20 website](#). It can be found by navigating to the Rostering and Data Management section. A change log has been included to indicate where updates were made.

WISE-Only Rostering Districts: Homeroom Indicator for Classes

Districts who are rostering for Act 20 using only WISE (not multi-source) should begin using the Homeroom Indicator in the district's Student Information System (SIS) to indicate which classes should be imported into aimswebPlus for Act 20 screening. Pearson will soon begin importing only the classes that have the Homeroom Indicator marked, which will help reduce the number of unnecessary classes imported into the aimswebPlus platform from WISE. For assistance in how to mark the Homeroom Indicator in your Student Information System, please contact your SIS vendor.

Reminders:

Mid-Year Testing Has Begun

As a reminder, the mid-year administration for Act 20 screening window began December 1 and will end January 30. Even if your district plans to begin testing in January, 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](#).

Braille Test Material Orders for Act 20 Mid-Year Screener

Districts may now order materials for the mid-year administration using [Wisconsin Act 20 Mid-Year 2025 Braille Order Form](#). Please note districts may also choose to order a printed copy of the Braille Administration and Scoring Guide, or it can be accessed electronically in the [Administrations and Scoring Guide: Braille Administrations resource](#).

On-Demand Replay of Key Webinars Available

As a reminder, districts can access the on-demand replay of the [Optimizing Classroom Decisions through Data-Driven Insights](#) and [Empowering Individualized Student Decisions through Data Analysis](#) webinars. As we have concluded the fall administration and are moving toward mid-year, schools may find this information especially useful.

Pearson Office Hours Available

Pearson hosts Office Hours every other Tuesday from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm CT. Please see the [Wisconsin Office Hours list of dates](#) and use this [Zoom link](#) to join each session. This offering is specific to Wisconsin, and districts may use the time to ask questions about the aimswebPlus platform, how to access materials and screen in aimswebPlus, how to access score results, viewing reports, and more.

'Student Not Tested' (SNT) Indicator for Mid-Year Act 20 Screening

Pearson has created 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.). Indicating an SNT reason will be required beginning with the 2025-26 mid-year administration. Release Notes and accompanying screenshots can be found on the [aimswebPlus Help Site](#).

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 |
|--|--|---------------|
| Technology Training Videos | Four short videos that cover all information District Technology Coordinators (DTCs) need to know. | Forward |
| Educator Involvement Opportunity Application | Application for Wisconsin educators to participate in the 2026 New Item Review. | Forward |
| Act 20 Rostering Guide | Document outlining rostering students | aimswebPlus |
| ACT Practice Tests | Webpage with new (Enhanced) ACT practice tests and student prep resources. | ACT |
| PreACT Secure 2026 Test Administration Manuals | Link to all 2026 PreACT Secure administration manuals. | PreACT Secure |
| PreACT Secure What's New | Document outlining all new items or changes for 2026. | PreACT Secure |
| ACCESS Transfer Request | Request an In-State Transfer. | ACCESS |
| Domain Waiver Request | Process to Waive Domain (half-way down the page). | ACCESS |

Important Dates to Remember

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

| Date | Event | Program |
|---------------|--|-------------------|
| December 8 | NAEP assessment preparation tasks open in the NAEP AMS | NAEP |
| December 19 | ACT Test Date Selection Survey due | ACT |
| January 6 | New Administrator Tutorials available | Forward |
| January 6 | DAC Training Video available | Forward |
| January 6 | Test Administrator Training Video available | Forward |
| January 6 | DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide available | Forward |
| January 6 | Test Administration Manual available | Forward |
| January 6 | ACT Online Site Readiness Webinar | ACT |
| January 20 | ACT Office Hour - Verify student roster | ACT |
| January 23 | DPI uploads student rosters in PAnext | ACT/PreACT Secure |
| January 26-30 | Verify ACT student rosters in PAnext | ACT |
| January 26 | PAnext opens for PreACT Secure | PreACT Secure |
| January 27 | PreACT Secure Test Admin #1 Training Webinar | PreACT Secure |
| January 28 | Deadline to enter accommodations in TAA for ACT | ACT |
| January 30 | Test Window Closes | ACCESS |
| February 4 | DAC, SAC, DTC Q&A Webinar | Forward |
| February 9 | Test set up opens - access to DRC INSIGHT Portal Test Sessions, Accessibility Features, Test Tickets | Forward |



| Date | Event | Program |
|-------------|---|---------|
| February 10 | All materials due back to DRC for scoring | 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>

December 2025 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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