



COVID-19 UPDATES

On Monday, March 16, Deputy State Superintendent Mike Thompson sent [an email](#) to district administrators with an important update about testing and accountability in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic:

“It is increasingly clear that it will not be possible to complete testing this year due to the pandemic. The DPI will aggressively pursue a waiver request to the United States Department of Education (USDE) from this requirement and will work with the legislature and governor’s office around suspending the state test requirements this spring. In addition, we will continue discussions around the impact on report cards with all parties. We will keep you updated on this progress as we move forward.”

Due to the evolving updates with COVID-19, this week’s DAC Digest does not include Forward, ASPIRE, and DLM specific updates. Forward and DLM test windows will not open as planned on March 23 due to the Governor’s executive order to close schools for the duration of the public health emergency. We will keep you updated as the situation progresses, and thank you in advance for your patience. Please bookmark DPI’s [COVID-19](#) website, which serves as the agency’s main resource for information and communications related to the developing situation around this pandemic. The page is updated regularly.

As you know, assessment is a key component in Wisconsin’s federal and state accountability systems, and at this point, we do not know the full impact the potential suspension of testing will have on future state and federal accountability reporting and identifications. OEA and OSA staff are working with other states and national experts as we plan our next steps to advocate for schools and districts.

Also, please note that OEA and OSA staff remain available for any assessment or accountability questions. You can contact our teams by emailing oea@dpi.wi.gov or osa@dpi.wi.gov.

ACT High School Assessments

ACT with writing

New:

Shipping Test Materials Back to ACT for Schools that Did Test

- FedEx has been pre-scheduled to pick up materials for all schools between March 18 and March 20. If your school building will remain open, you may utilize the pre-scheduled pickup option and return materials to FedEx via the normal process.
- If your school will not be accessible to FedEx, you should return the materials to a FedEx office and ship the materials back to ACT. The test coordinator who drops off the materials at the FedEx office should get a receipt from FedEx indicating that the materials were given to FedEx.
- If FedEx does not show up and there is not a FedEx location nearby, the test coordinator should [contact the ACT Help Desk](#) to arrange for pickup as soon as possible.

Shipping Test Materials Back to ACT for Schools that Did Not Test

- FedEx has been pre-scheduled to pick up materials for all schools between March 18 and March 20. If your school building will remain open, you may utilize the pre-scheduled pickup option and return materials to FedEx via the normal process.
- If your school will not be accessible to FedEx, you should return the materials to a FedEx office and ship the materials back to ACT. The test coordinator who drops off the materials at the FedEx office should get a receipt from FedEx indicating that the materials were given to FedEx.
- If FedEx does not show up and there is not a FedEx location nearby, school staff should keep materials locked and secure until they return to school.

How to Document in PANext that a School did not Test on a Given Test Date

The school test coordinators should indicate in PANext that their students did not test per the guidance below (page 30 of the [Test Coordinator Information Manual](#)):

1. Select the organization from the drop-down at the top right side of the screen.
2. Select the Setup icon, then Organizations.
3. Select the box beside the school(s) you wish to update.
4. Select the drop-down on the Start button, then Create/Edit Organizations.
5. On the Create/Edit Organizations detail screen, select the following boxes:
 - Did Not Test Any Makeup Standard Tests
 - Did Not Test Any Makeup Accommodations Tests
6. Select the Exit Tasks button to save the changes.

Makeup Accommodations Window - Closes at 5pm Wednesday, March 18

Due to the closure of all schools, the makeup accommodations window closes at 5pm on Wednesday March 18. Tests should be submitted for scoring using the procedures outlined above.

ACT Emergency Testing Window

The emergency ACT test day and accommodations window scheduled for March 31 is canceled due to the closure of all schools from March 18 for the duration of the public health emergency per the Governor's Executive Order.

Reading Readiness

Reminder:

Reading Readiness Reimbursement

District Assessment Coordinators should have received their reimbursement request form on Monday, March 2. This electronic form allows districts to identify the amount that they are seeking to be reimbursed for Reading Readiness expenses. The form asks coordinators to indicate the name of each screener utilized at each grade, the number of students screened and the amount requested for reimbursement. If you have not received your reimbursement request form, please contact Duane Dorn at 608-267-1069 or duane.dorn@dpi.wi.gov. More information can be found at [Reading Readiness Information](#) and [Reading Readiness FAQ](#).

ACCESS for ELLs

Reminder:

Data will be available in the WIDA AMS on April 24. At that time you will be able to download district data files, frequency reports, and translated student reports.

The post-reporting data validation window runs April 24 to May 5. Any changes made at this time will impact the statewide ACCESS data results, but will not cause new ISRs to be printed. You will be able to download updated ISRs after May 21.

Paper ISRs will be shipped to districts on May 1.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Selected schools only

NEW: Age 17 NAEP LTT testing canceled

On Friday afternoon March, 13, 2020, Principals and School Coordinators in age 17 schools received this email from NAEP staff announcing the suspension of NAEP testing:

Thank you for your support of the NAEP 2019-2020 Long-Term Trend (LTT) assessments.

The Age 17 LTT assessments were scheduled to be administered beginning on Monday, March 16, 2020. Today NCES made the decision to suspend the Age 17 LTT assessments for the 2019-2020 school year.

This decision was made in light of the growing number of school closures nationwide due to the coronavirus and to protect field staff, school staff, and students from possible exposure to COVID-19. We will notify you of any future plans to reinstate the administration of the Age 17 LTT assessments.

We thank you for all of your work to prepare for this important study. Should you have any questions, please contact the NAEP Help Desk at 1-800-283-6237 or NAEPHelp@westat.com.

A follow-up email was sent today, **March 18**, announcing the cancellation:

Dear School Coordinator,

Thank you for your support of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), and your understanding about the cancellation of the age 17 assessment at your school.

If you have any questions about the assessment or its cancellation, please contact the NAEP Help Desk at 1-800-283-6237 or NAEPhelp@westat.com

Regards,

NAEP Operations

Thank you for all the work already done for these assessments. And thanks also to the schools that participated in the age 9 and 13 assessments. We had great participation rates and positive feedback from the field staff in Wisconsin. Please contact Angela Dugas (angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov) if you have any questions.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

New Online Resource Highlights

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

Resource	Description	Assessment
ACCESS for ELLs Resources	Parent notification materials for ACCESS ISRs	ACCESS