

COVID-19 UPDATES

Assessment Related Updates

The Office of Student Assessment has created a [webpage](#) with updates on statewide assessments related to school closures due to COVID-19. This website will be kept up-to-date as we receive new information.

As a result of the April 15 enactment of 2019 Wisconsin Act 185, the coronavirus relief package, and the ESEA waiver granted by the Department of Education on March 23, **all state and federal academic assessment requirements have officially been suspended or waived for 2019-20**. The federal waiver also covered the English language proficiency assessment, but this had already been administered by the time coronavirus measures took hold. See the WSAS updates section for information on alternative options for taking the ACT with writing for 11th graders who did not test in your district before the school closure order took effect.

DPI has created an overview of federal waivers related to the CARES Act and statewide assessment, accountability, and reporting. Designed as a quick reference, the overview includes information about the requirements waived for Wisconsin and implications for districts. See *What the Federal waivers mean for LEAs* on the [Elementary and Secondary Education Act](#) webpage.

We will continue to use the DAC Digest and the COVID-19 Related Assessment Updates [webpage](#) to update you as we move forward. Please contact osamail@dpi.wi.gov with questions.

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATES

2019 Wisconsin Act 185 & Accountability

As mentioned above, 2019 Wisconsin Act 185 and the federal ESEA waiver have officially suspended and waived academic assessment requirements for the remainder of school year 2019-20, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Act 185 also [prohibits the release of school and district accountability report cards in the 2020-21 school year](#). This means **we will not issue school or district report cards for 2019-20** (the report cards that would usually be publicly released in November).

Though there will be no 2019-20 report cards, OEA continues work on the report card redesign project that we have provided updates about in [previous DAC Digests](#). Our plan is to provide **accountability preview reports** directly to schools and districts via SAFE in the fall of 2020, on a similar timeline to “normal” report card releases. These preview reports will use data from prior years (i.e., 2018-19 assessment results) to demonstrate the report card calculation and data changes, and will supplement the data available in [WISEdash for Districts](#). Again, **these reports would not be released publically** and would primarily serve as a planning tool to support schools and districts in continuous improvement.

We will continue to keep you updated as we work through options for preview reports. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us at OEEmail@dpi.wi.gov.

Data Collection During School Closure

Now that the Spring Demographics Snapshot has been cancelled, DPI is receiving more questions about other data, like how to report attendance or manage enrollment information during this time of school closure. DPI staff are engaged in deep-dives on these topics in order to develop guidance to help schools and districts with data collection, and will share that guidance as soon as we can. In the meantime, it is important to plan for a basic continuity of operations in regards to your data systems: someone has to be able to enroll and exit students, and to transfer records as necessary, even if school buildings are closed.

More information can be found in an [email to district administrators](#) sent on April 16. If you have questions about the cancelled Spring Demographics Snapshot or about other data reporting, please submit a [Help Desk Ticket](#).

~OEA

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

ACT High School Assessments

ACT with writing

New:

June 2 Testing Date Cancelled

In response to the Governor's most recent order to extend Safer at Home and close all public and private K-12 schools for the remainder of the academic year, the June 2 in-school ACT testing date will no longer be offered. Students who did not test in March will still have the opportunity to take the ACT with writing during national testing dates through a voucher program.

Vouchers for National Testing Dates:

With the recent order closing schools through the end of the school year, it is not feasible to offer vouchers for the June 13 ACT national testing date. The July 18 ACT test date is not currently impacted by the order to close schools and we anticipate being able to provide vouchers to DACs in the near future for this date.

Additional information related to the vouchers:

- Vouchers are only to be provided to 11th grade students who were not able to test on March 3 or March 17.
- These vouchers provide students with the opportunity to test. **There is no requirement that students test on this date.**
- Students that tested on March 3 or March 17 are not eligible for a voucher.
- July 18, 2020 ACT Test Date
 - Student Registration Deadline - June 19, 2020
- More detailed information will be provided when vouchers arrive in districts.

Reminders:

ACT is Providing Free Digital Learning Resources for Students Impacted by COVID-19

ACT is providing resources to serve community needs during this challenging time. The resources are adaptable for use in the home and through online learning. To discover more about these resources, visit [ACT online](#).

Score Report Schedule

5-8 weeks after testing, sent in batches

- Printed student report sent to student's home
- Printed student report sent to the school
- Student score labels sent to the school
- Checklist report sent to the school
- Scores sent to the colleges that the student selected during the non-test session

Score Report Resources

- [ACT Sample Student Score Report](#)
- [ACT Sample High School Score Report](#)

School and District Reporting:

Due to delays in statewide ACT testing, school and district profile reports will not be available in PANext until late summer. DPI will notify DACs once a reporting date has been released.

Forward Exam

New:

Assessment of New Social Studies Standards

The new Forward Exam for Social Studies was due to be launched in the spring of 2021, giving educators a few years to teach to the new standards prior to testing. This new Social Studies exam will be aligned to the new Social Studies Standards that were released in 2018. However, with the cancellation of the spring 2020 Forward Exam, DRC is unable to field test additional items needed to create the new Social Studies test. Therefore, for spring 2021 we will continue to administer Social Studies assessments aligned to the previous standards. The new Forward Exam for Social Studies will be delayed until the spring of 2022.

Reading Readiness

Reading Readiness Reimbursement

DPI will be evaluating the Reading Readiness reimbursement requests in the next couple of weeks and verifying information where necessary. Districts should expect to be reimbursed for their expenses sometime in late May or early June.

More information can be found at [Reading Readiness Information](#) and [Reading Readiness FAQ](#).

ACCESS for ELLs

New:

The 2019-20 ACCESS results will be available in the WIDA AMS beginning April 24. At that time districts will be able to view and download district data files, frequency reports, and translated student reports.

Post-reporting data validation is optional and will be available in the WIDA AMS from April 24 through May 29. This is three weeks longer than originally scheduled in order to provide districts more time to make final corrections to data, if necessary. Please contact [Jesse Roberts](#) if you have any questions.

The May 1 paper ISR delivery has been rescheduled to August 17 to ensure that critical staff are available to sign for the delivery in all districts.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Reminder:

The NAEP 2018 U.S. History, Civics, and Geography results for grade 8 are being released on April 23. These are national level results. Students in Wisconsin participated in the assessments and contributed to the national results. Learn more about the assessment and read about previous results on [The Nation's Report Card](#). You can [register to attend](#) the live release on April 23 at 1:30pm ET.

Virtual Learning Opportunities

New:

ELA/Math

The DPI Literacy and Mathematics team created a new [Learning during Extended School Closure: ELA, Literacy and Mathematics](#) webpage. The resources on this page support school leaders and classroom teachers in making intentional choices about what engaging learning in ELA, literacy and mathematics can look like in home and community environments.

Science

DPI is sharing a [Resources to Support At-Home Learning in Science 2020](#) document that contains general ideas on at-home learning, current at-home learning resources in science for parents and educators and general online science learning resources.

Reminder:

Social Studies

The Maine Department of Education has provided a [list](#) of what to consider when developing educational experiences for your social studies students outside of the classroom. There are also examples of different ways to approach asynchronous learning experiences in the different content strands along with appropriate supporting links. Additional resources to support the creation of units can be found at the [DOE Continuity of Learning webpage](#) as well as the [Social Studies Curriculum & Instruction](#) pages for each of the four content areas ([Civics & Government](#), [Personal Finance & Economics](#), [Geography](#), [History](#)).

For a more tailored collection, check out this collection of [searchable curricular resources sorted by grade band and content strand](#) that can be used to support the creation of asynchronous learning experiences for your students.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

Important Dates to Remember

April	24: ISRs and Data Downloads available in WIDA AMS	ACCESS
	24: Post-Reporting Data Validation opens	ACCESS
May	29: Post-Reporting Data Validation closes	ACCESS
	By end of May (tentative): Districts receive notification of selection for NAEP 2021	NAEP
August	17: Paper ISR delivery	ACCESS

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
Kids' Zone	Resources supporting home learning	NAEP
NAEP Data Tools	Data tools to explore NAEP results	NAEP
ACT- Digital Learning Resources	Online learning resources for parents, students and educators	ACT
Learning during Extended School Closure: ELA, Literacy and Mathematics	ELA, math and literacy resources to support school leaders and classroom teachers	N/A
Resources to Support At-Home Learning in Science	This document includes several science resources for at-home learning	N/A
Continuity of Learning - Social Studies	Resources and learning experiences in the different content strands along with appropriate supporting links	N/A