

COVID-19 UPDATES

Assessment Related Updates

As a result of the April 15 enactment of the 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. Most students took the ACT on the scheduled testing dates before schools closed. 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. Please contact osamail@dpi.wi.gov with questions.

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATES

Federal Waivers – Accountability Information for LEAs

As mentioned above, DPI has created a [resource on federal waivers](#) that Wisconsin has received as a result of school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent passage of the CARES Act. On pages four and five of this document, you can find more information on how these waivers impact federal accountability. As a reminder, there will be no federal identifications issued during the 2020-21 school year, as these identifications are based on data from school year 2019-20. Schools with identifications in the 2019-20 school year will retain those identifications in the 2020-21 school year and DPI will continue to support LEAs of these schools.

You can find more information on how state accountability has been impacted by 2019 Wisconsin Act 185 in the [DAC Digest from April 22](#). You can also contact us with any accountability questions at OEAmail@dpi.wi.gov.

Reminder - 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

Reminders:

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.

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

Reminder:

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

Reminder:

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 WIDA Screener test administration year ends on June 25. At that time, the 2019-20 administration will be locked, and incomplete tests will not be able to be finished. If you have tests in progress from before school was closed, you will need to readminister the entire test when school resumes in the fall. You do not need to take any action regarding the incomplete tests.

Reminders:

The 2019-20 ACCESS results are now available in the WIDA AMS. You may view and download district data files, frequency reports, and translated Individual Student Reports (ISRs). If you have the ability to securely deliver electronic copies of the ISR to parents, you may do so at any time.

Post-reporting data validation is optional and is open through May 29. 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)

New:

Notification about NAEP 2021 (for school year 2020-21) will be slightly delayed due to school closures. Usually districts are notified in May, and schools are notified in June of their selection for NAEP in the following school year. This year, notification will likely be sent out later in the summer. The National Center for Education Statistics in the US Department of Education (oversees NAEP) believes NAEP will provide important benchmarks to help understand the impact of the current health crisis. As of now, the assessment will be conducted as scheduled in early 2021.

Reminder:

The NAEP 2018 U.S. History, Civics, and Geography results for grade 8 were 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 results on [The Nation's Report Card](#).

Virtual Learning Opportunities

Reminders:

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.

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
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