



The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

June 4, 2025

Accountability

Reminder:

2025 Wisconsin Report Card Standard Setting

This summer, the 2025 Wisconsin Report Card Standard Setting panel will review and recommend updates to the thresholds used for school and district report card rating categories. These recommendations will align the rating system with current performance measures, be submitted to the State Superintendent for adoption, and be incorporated into 2024-25 report cards, which will be published this fall.

To support your communication with staff and communities, the DPI has created an [Understanding the 2025 Wisconsin Report Card Standard Setting resource](#). A continuously updated FAQ is also available on the [2025 Wisconsin Report Card Standard Setting webpage](#).

Information about the report card standard setting was included in the [EdLeaders Dispatch](#) sent to District Administrators on Friday, May 23 and in a [DPI News Release](#) that was published on Tuesday, May 27. It is a continuation of the recruitment work that was announced in the [April 3 DAC Digest](#).

If you have questions, please reach out to ReportCardHelp@dpi.wi.gov.

Assessment

New:

OEA Thank You Summer Message

Thank you for supporting the work of assessment and accountability during the 2024-25 school year. OEA appreciates your dedication to supporting Wisconsin students, schools and districts and looks forward to working with you again next year.

Assessment data will become available at various points this summer. Statewide results will be available in secure WISEdash for Districts in August, and available in WISEdash Public in early fall. Please see each assessment section below for specific assessment results reporting dates, information and resources that may be helpful for summer planning.



This is the last weekly DAC Digest of the 2024-25 school year. The DAC Digest will be sent to DACs once more in June and once in July regarding assessment and accountability, including information on data and reporting availability, before resuming weekly mid-August.

Forward Exam Remote Administration Pilot

Virtual schools that exclusively serve students through online instruction will be offered the option to administer the Forward Exam remotely in spring 2026. As part of the technology development for this, DPI is recruiting virtual schools to voluntarily participate in a remote administration pilot that will take place in October 2025. The pilot will include up to 20 schools with 20 students participating (in assorted grade levels and content areas) from each school. Technology requirements for remote administration are now available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements and Resources webpage](#).

Virtual schools interested in volunteering to participate in the pilot should complete the [Forward Exam Remote Administration Pilot Application](#). Selected schools will be notified in early August and trained for the pilot participation in September. For more information, or if you have questions about your school's eligibility for this pilot, please contact the [Office of Educational Accountability](#).

Reminders:

DAC Contact Updates During the Summer and into the 2025-26 School Year

It is important to keep your District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) contact information up to date over the summer months and as staffing changes occur from 2024-25 to 2025-26. Communications from OEA will be sent to DACs over the summer and into early fall regarding assessment and accountability, **including information on data and reporting availability**. You may need to assign an Interim DAC to ensure your district continues to receive updates while filling the DAC position for the 2025-26 school year. The DAC contact information is used to verify who should have DAC level access to reports in the vendor portals. Be sure to complete a [DAC Update form](#) with the appropriate effective date noted if any changes are needed for the coming months.

Assessment Professional Learning and Coaching Series Resources

Resources including slides, facilitators guides and individual e-learning modules from the Assessment Professional Learning and Coaching Series are available on the [Assessment Professional Learning and Coaching Series Resources webpage](#). Summer is a great time for school leaders and educators to use these resources to build their assessment knowledge on the following topics:

- Classroom/End of Unit Assessment
- Project Based Assessment
- Assessing Writing Across Grade Levels and Content Areas
- Analyzing Formative, Interim and Summative Data
- Performance Tasks

More topics including Formative Assessment Practices and Educator Created Interim Assessments will be available later this summer. For questions about these resources and how to use them, please contact [Lauren Zellmer](#).

ACCESS for ELLs

Reminder:

ACCESS Test Redesign/Rebranding

WIDA will be revising ACCESS for the 2025-26 school year. The test will be rebranded as WIDA ACCESS, WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten, and WIDA Alternate ACCESS. While this will largely be the same format as the current version, the Kindergarten version has been redesigned to be more compact. Training for the redesigned WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten will be available at the beginning of October.

The new test will be fully aligned to the WIDA 2020 ELD standards, and will come with better ties to instruction. For more information on this redesign, please visit WIDA's [Revising ACCESS webpage](#).

ACT

Reminder:

ACT Aggregate Reports

ACT data in [Success.ACT](#) will be final on June 3. Reference the [ACT Online Reporting User Guide](#) for a list of available reports and instructions on how to access each report. Additional scoring and reporting resources can be found under step 7 on the [Wisconsin ACT webpage](#). Please refer to the [April 30 DAC Digest](#) for important reminders regarding sharing results from the Wisconsin Student Assessment System.

PreACT Secure

Reminder:

PreACT Secure Scores and Reporting

The PreACT Secure data in [Success.ACT](#) is now final. **No paper Individual Student Reports (ISRs) will be sent to schools.** Schools will be responsible for downloading and disseminating ISRs and to families. Instructions on how to download ISRs can be found on page 16 of the [ACT Online Reporting User Guide](#). When sending ISRs home, districts should make use of the resources created to help parents/guardians understand their child's PreACT Secure results. The Using Your PreACT Secure Results (guide for students) and Sample Cover Letter are located on the [DPI PreACT Secure Data and Results webpage](#).

Additional reporting guides and resources can be found under step 7 of the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#). Please refer to the [April 30 DAC Digest](#) for important reminders regarding sharing results from the Wisconsin Student Assessment System.

DLM

Reminder:

DLM Score Reports

The DLM Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary reports will be electronically available to districts in the Educator Portal on June 23. Be sure to provide parents/guardians with ISRs as soon as possible after electronic receipt.

Forward Exam

Reminders:

Assign Principal Access to Forward Exam Reports

Individual Student Reports (ISRs), including downloadable zipped files with separate PDF ISRs for each student, and summary reports are now available electronically in the DRC INSIGHT Portal. DACs can assign school principals the permission set of “School Report User” in the DRC INSIGHT Portal to access their school summary reporting dashboards and ISRs. Hard copy ISRs will be mailed to districts June 17. Districts do not need to wait for the hard copy shipment of ISRs. Electronic ISRs may be printed and given to parents/guardians now.

Forward Reporting Resources

ISRs should be shared with parents/guardians as soon as possible in hard copy or via a secure parent portal. When sending ISRs home, districts should use the resources available on the [Forward Exam Data and Results webpage](#) to help parents/guardians understand their child’s Forward Exam results. Instructions to access the ISRs and summary data in the DRC INSIGHT Portal are provided in the User’s Guide to Interpreting Reports, available on the [Forward Exam Data and Results webpage](#).

Translated ISR Resources

ISR translated templates and parent/guardian ISR cover letters are available in 21 different languages on the [Forward Exam Data and Results webpage](#) and should be provided to families as needed. DACs can contact the DRC Help Desk for additional language translations. Districts and schools are responsible for securely distributing ISRs to parents/guardians in a language they can understand and in a format that is accessible to them.

The Forward Exam reporting information here has also been shared with your principals and District Administrators.

NAEP and International Assessments

New:

NAEP 2026 Notifications

NAEP 2026 will include reading and mathematics operational and pilot assessments in grades 4, 8, and 12. There will also be U.S. History and Civics assessments in grade 8. District Administrators should receive notification emails from DPI around the end of June if they have schools selected for NAEP 2026. DACs will receive a copy of that email. Principals in those schools will be notified later this summer.

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

Reading Readiness – Early Literacy Assessment

Reminder:

Questions about the aimswebPlus literacy screener, personal reading plans, and district early literacy remediation plans should be sent to 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
The User's Guide to Interpreting Reports	Explains the types of scores and various reports associated with the Forward Exam.	Forward Exam
2024-25 Statewide Assessment Vendor-Based Reporting Timeline	2024-25 Vendor-Based Reporting Information is now available under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines.	ALL

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
May 27	ISRs and Summary Data available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal	Forward
May 30	PreACT Secure ISRs and data files final in ACT Online Reporting (Success)	PreACT Secure
June 3	ACT school and district aggregated data available in ACT's Online Reporting System (Success)	ACT
June 5	Final Data available in WIDA AMS/DRC Insight	ACCESS
June 17	Hard copies of ISRs sent to districts	Forward
Late June	Districts receive notification of schools selected for NAEP 2026	NAEP



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

June 2025 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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