



Assessment Update for Parental Choice Schools

January 25, 2024

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

Assessment

Reminder:

Verify Student Assessment Rosters

DPI will load student data from WISEdata into the DRC INSIGHT Portal (Forward) and PearsonAccess^{next} (ACT with writing and PreACT Secure). To ensure that you have the correct roster of students for testing, please make certain that your student enrollment and demographic data are correct in WISEdata before the **end of the day (today, January 25)**.

ACT

New:

Verify Student Rosters in PearsonAccess^{next} - January 29-31

- On January 26, DPI will load school ACT student rosters into [PearsonAccess^{next}](#). Testing staff will have from **January 29-31** to upload any additional students (choice or non-choice) who were not included in the initial DPI upload and to indicate testing mode for each student (paper or online).
- Barcode labels will be shipped only for students who are in PAnext at the end of the day on January 31. After January 31, schools can add new students, but they will not receive barcodes and schools will need to follow the instructions in the test administration manuals on how to prepare an answer document without a barcode.

Accommodations Reconsideration Deadline - February 2

The reconsideration deadline for accommodations and English learner supports is February 2. This deadline applies to **reconsideration requests only**. If you have an initial request where ACT has issued a decision notification that requires further review, please submit the request for reconsideration no later than February 2. For assistance, please see [Requesting Reconsideration \(TAA User Guide\)](#).

Educator Involvement Opportunity

DPI is recruiting a diverse group of Wisconsin educators to establish cut scores for the ACT in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science. These cut scores are independent of ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks and are used for state accountability. The Standard Setting will be an in-person, two-day meeting held in Madison on July 10-11, 2024. For more information about this opportunity and instructions on how to apply, visit the [DPI ACT Educator Involvement Opportunities webpage](#).

PreACT Secure

New:

Student Roster Upload

DPI will load PreACT Secure student rosters into PAnext on January 26. On January 29, schools can begin verifying rosters and assigning accommodations. DPI and ACT will send out detailed instructions via email on how to complete these tasks the week of January 29. Instructions and resources can also be found in the [Step 2, Configuration: Verify Enrollment Counts on the Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#).

PreACT Secure - Test Administration #1 Training Webinar

PreACT Secure training begins on Tuesday, January 30 (10:00am) with the Test Administration #1 Training. All DACs and Test Coordinators are encouraged to attend and share training opportunities with other staff. Registration and meeting links for the trainings and office hours are posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure Training webpage](#). All training webinars are recorded. Office hours are not recorded.

Reminder:

PearsonAccess^{next} Opened January 22

On January 22, the PreACT Secure portal opened within [PearsonAccess^{next}](#) (PAnext) for the spring 2024 administration. DACs have access through the assessment drop down menu using their existing PAnext account credentials. DACs will need to create accounts and grant user access to the PreACT Secure portal for all testing staff. Instructions on how to create accounts and/or update existing accounts can be found in the [PearsonAccessnext User Guide for the PreACT Secure](#).

Forward Exam

New:

Forward Exam Q&A webinar

On February 7 at 12:30 pm, the second of three optional Q&A webinar sessions will take place (see the [Forward Exam Calendar webpage](#) for third Q&A webinar date). This webinar is an opportunity for District and School Assessment Coordinators (DACs/SACs) and District and School Technology Coordinators (DTCs/STCs) to ask DPI and DRC staff questions about Forward Exam test set-up, administration, or technology that may have come up after reviewing the training videos and other resources. Please share this information with your DTCs, SACs, and STCs. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#) for those who cannot attend the live session. To join the webinar on February 7, please use this [Forward Exam Q&A webinar session Zoom link](#).

ELA Test Design and Short Write Tasks Information and FAQ

We appreciate the questions from Districts regarding the new ELA test design and short write tasks. These topics are discussed in detail in the DAC/SAC Training and the Test Administrator Trainings available on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#). There is also a handout available on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#) that explains the changes and provides answers to common questions about the short write tasks. Share this handout with your educators. We have also included the short write task FAQs on the [Forward Exam Frequently Asked Questions webpage](#). DRC is currently creating the rubrics for these new item types. OEA will notify DACs as soon as draft rubrics are available and posted to the Forward Exam Resources webpage. Rubrics will not be finalized until the [ELA Range-finding meeting](#) in April.

Optional Add Accessibility Features Window Begins February 12

During this optional window (February 12-23), districts may use the Multiple Student Upload process to upload designated supports and accommodations for multiple students at one time into the DRC INSIGHT Portal. This two-week optional window is the only time this method of uploading accessibility features is available. As a reminder, Text-to-Speech is now a Universal Support for all students and does not need to be assigned in the Portal. If you choose not to take advantage of the window, you may still enter supports and accommodations into the DRC INSIGHT Portal on an individual student or “mass assign” basis as needed, beginning March 4. Instructions for all three processes are available in the [DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide](#).

Read Aloud (Human Reader) Accommodation Prior Approval

The Read Aloud **accommodation** is different from the Read Aloud **designated support**. The accommodation is only available to a student with visual impairments who is receiving instruction in contracted braille but not yet proficient, and whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan. The student must meet all five criteria on the [Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form for the Forward Exam](#). If a student requires the Read Aloud accommodation and meets the criteria stated on the form, the DAC must submit a Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form to the Office of Educational Accountability. DPI will review the request, and if approved, activate the process. After receiving DPI approval, the DAC must assign the accommodation in the DRC INSIGHT Portal for the student prior to printing test tickets. Students who do not meet all criteria but require Read Aloud (a human reader) should use the Read Aloud designated support.

Reminder:

Forward Exam for Non-Choice Students

Non-Choice students will again be able to take the Forward Exam with the cost of the exam remaining at \$35 per student. The order form can be found at [Forward Exam Order Form](#).

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
DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide	Helps DACs, SACs and other users manage user permissions, student information, and testing responsibilities in the DRC INSIGHT Portal.	Forward
Test Administration Manual (TAM)	The TAM provides information for Test Administrators (TAs) in order to successfully administer the Forward Exam.	Forward
Forward Exam Practice Test	Students should be given the opportunity to practice with the online Forward Exam Practice Test as new tools and functionality have been included.	Forward
DAC/SAC Training	Required training for all DACs/SACs that did not attend the in-person training sessions in November.	Forward
Test Administrator (TA) Training	Required training for all TAs and covers all information TAs need to prepare for and administer the Forward Exam. DACs should ensure that all TAs view this training.	Forward

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
January 25	Verify student enrollment and demographic data in WISEdata	Forward, ACT, PreACT Secure
January 29 - 31	Verify ACT Student Rosters in PAnext	ACT
January 29	Student Rosters available in PAnext - begin entering accommodations and EL supports	PreACT Secure
January 30	Attend PreACT Secure Test Administration #1 training	PreACT Secure
February 5	Begin creating and assigning students to test sessions	ACT
February 6	Attend PreACT Secure Office Hour	PreACT Secure
February 12-23	Optional Add Accessibility Features window	Forward
February 12	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1 (early date selection)	ACT
February 12	Begin training ACT testing staff	ACT
February 19	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1	ACT
February 26	Paper testing order window opens	PreACT Secure



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January 2024 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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