

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

ACT with writing

Reminders:

Deadline to Enter ACT Accommodations and English Learner Supports: January 15

For steps on completing this process, please refer to the [ACT Accommodations and Supports webpage](#).

ACT with Writing for Non-Choice Students

Non-choice students will again be allowed to take the ACT with Writing on the state administration dates. Cost for the test will be \$50 per student. Order forms were sent to choice assessment coordinators on December 15 with the order deadline set for January 8.

Student Roster Data Pull from WISEdata

On January 19, DPI will extract a student-level data file from WISEdata and load this data to the ACT portal (PearsonAccessNext). DPI will load all 11th grade choice students as well as 11th grade non-choice students from schools that have opted to receive the “all school report card.” Please make certain that your student data is correct in WISEdata before the end of the day on January 18.

Additional Steps Needed to Order the ACT for Non-Choice Students

Listed below are the complete list of steps necessary for schools to order the ACT with Writing for their non-choice students.

- Complete the order form by the January 8 deadline. This step is to notify DPI whether a school plans on testing non-choice students.
- Verify that DPI has loaded your choice students (and non-choice students from schools that are receiving the all school report card) into the portal (January 20-22 window to complete this step).
- Once choice students have been verified as being loaded, school staff will be able to load any additional 11th grade non-choice students into the portal that plan on testing (January 20-22 window to complete this step). This step is to let ACT know which students will be tested.
- ACT will ship test materials based off of the students loaded into PANext.
- At the conclusion of the testing windows, DPI will contact schools to ask them to verify the actual number of non-choice students that were tested. DPI will then bill schools based off of this updated information.

ACT Office Hours

DPI and ACT are teaming up to offer “ACT Office Hours” every Thursday at 9:00 am, January 14 through April 15. Assessment Coordinators will receive an email this week from ACT with more information on scheduled topics and registration.

Aspire

Reminders:

ACT Aspire for Non-Choice Students

Schools that elect to test their non-choice students with ACT Aspire will need to contact ACT directly to order tests for these students. Ordering information can be found at: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/act-aspire.html#get-aspire>. Schools will not need to order tests for their choice students as DPI automatically loads the choice students into the testing portal.

Free ACT Aspire Test Preparation Resources

Links to exemplar items for ACT Aspire can be found on the [DPI ACT Practice Tests/Sample Items webpage](#).

Training Webinars

Registration is open for Aspire training webinars. Please note that the trainings cover different content, so Test Coordinators should plan to attend all training sessions. Technology Coordinators should attend the technology readiness webinar scheduled for February 9. All trainings will be recorded and posted to the [DPI ACT Aspire Trainings page](#).

Forward Exam

Reminders:

Forward Exam for Non-Choice Students

CESA 6 will again be overseeing the process for schools that wish to test their non-choice students. Ordering information can be found at: <https://www.cesa6.org/services/wi-forward-exam/order-form.cfm>.

2021 Forward Exam Trainings

The Forward Exam pre-recorded trainings will be available January 12 on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#). There will be three training presentations, a full training for new DACs/SACs, updates for experienced DACs/SACs, and a test administrator training, each with information targeted to a specific audience.

2021 Forward Exam Resources

The DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide and the Test Administration Manual will be available January 12 on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#).

Forward Exam Q&A Webinar

On January 13 at 1:00 pm there will be an optional Q&A webinar session which will provide an opportunity for Assessment and Technology Coordinators to ask DPI and DRC staff questions about test set-up, administration, or technology. 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 January 13, please use this [Forward Exam Q&A webinar session Zoom link](#).

See the [Forward Exam webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources.

Assessment and Accountability COVID-19 Related Updates

Reminder:

COVID-19 Information

OEA has created two webpages to keep you updated and informed. Please bookmark these pages and the [main DPI COVID-19 page](#), which contains COVID-19 information for schools beyond assessment and accountability.

- [COVID-19 – Accountability Updates and Resources](#) webpage with summary information on the impact of COVID-19 on school accountability in Wisconsin.
- [COVID-19 – Assessment Updates and Resources](#) webpage which contains assessment related COVID-19 resources, 2019-20 COVID updates, and any 2020-21 updates that may arise.

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATES

Preview Reports – Secure Release in SAFE, January 12

Accountability preview reports will be released securely to districts and schools in SAFE on **January 12**. District and choice school administrators will receive notification from Deputy State Superintendent Mike Thompson when the preview reports are loaded. If you have not already obtained access to SAFE, please visit the [WISEhome information page](#) and follow the steps there.

As a reminder, preview reports are **not report cards**. The preview reports use **prior years data** (i.e., 2018-19 assessment results) and do not include overall scores or ratings. The purpose of the preview reports is to **demonstrate and seek feedback on the design changes**. To gather feedback, a survey will be conducted in the coming months.

Preview reports in SAFE are secure - they are un-redacted and contain personally identifiable student data – **and therefore may not be shared with the public**. However, example preview reports will be posted to the [accountability resources](#) page on January 12, that can be shared with external stakeholders interested in learning about planned changes. This page will also be updated with resources to help you understand and explain the preview reports.

If you have questions about the preview reports, or the data used for accountability, please contact the [Office of Educational Accountability](#) or your [Accountability Trainer](#). If you have questions about accessing SAFE, please use the [DPI help desk](#).



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January 2021 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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