

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

General Assessment Update

Reminders:

Requirements for the 2020-21 administration of statewide assessments remain unchanged under state and federal law. We recognize schools are facing many challenges related to safe and effective instruction and assessment. The Department of Public Instruction is monitoring the situation closely, is working with state and local partners, and will share information as it becomes available.

District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Confidentiality Agreement

We ask DACs to complete the [DAC Confidentiality Agreement](#) and submit the form to OEA prior to testing. This year you will notice the form has a new design requiring only one signature for all four assessments. You may also complete and sign the form electronically using Acrobat Reader. The entire six page document needs to be submitted to OEA once signed. All other confidentiality forms (SACs, DTCs, STCs, etc.) remain the same and once completed will be retained at the school/district level.

ACT with writing

New:

2022 Test Administration Dates

For the spring 2022 ACT administration, the following test windows have been established. The first date of each test window is the paper and pencil test date. The entire window (minus weekends) is available for students testing with accommodations. Online testing (in a school setting) will be available on most days during the windows.

- Test Window One (Initial) - March 8-18, 2022
- Test Window Two (Make-up) - March 22-April 1, 2022
- Test Window Three (Emergency) - April 12-22, 2022

Selecting Test Dates in [Pearson Access^{next}](#)

- On Monday, November 2, DACs should have received an email from ACT titled “It is Time to Select Your Dates for ACT Testing”. This email is asking DACs to access [Pearson Access^{next}](#) (PANext) and identify the intended test date for initial testing and method(s) of test delivery (paper and pencil and online are both options), verify the shipping location for materials, and identify when materials should be shipped to your schools.
- Please note that if a school is selecting the online testing option, the test must be administered in a school setting.
- The deadline to complete these steps is November 27.
- Please see the [Pearson Access^{next} User Guide](#) for assistance. The section titled “Managing Participation” on page 6 provides guidance for completing this step.

- DACs should also update school test coordinators in PAnext at this time. The section titled “Managing Contact and User Account Information” on page 8 provides guidance for completing this step.

Reminders:

Test Administration

- The [2021 ACT Schedule of Events \(SOE\)](#) is now available. It contains important ACT assessment tasks and deadlines and should be referenced frequently throughout the testing year.
- You will be receiving several communications from ACT in the next few weeks. Please review these communications carefully and forward to the appropriate testing staff.

Training

- Test Administration #1 Q&A webinar will be Thursday, November 12, 10:30am-11:30am
 - [Registration Link](#)
- ACT Accommodations webinar was held on Thursday, October 29.
 - [10/29/20 Accommodations Webinar Recording](#)

*Please share these training opportunities with your staff.

Resources

The 2021 ACT Schedule of Events, online testing resources, administration manuals and training opportunities can be found on the [Wisconsin ACT Website](#). Additional resources can also be found on [DPI ACT webpages](#).

Forward Exam

Reminders:

2021 DRC INSIGHT Portal Access

All DACs who submitted their annual update forms by September 30, 2020, have been assigned 2021 permissions to the DRC INSIGHT Portal. You should have received an email from DRC regarding this. If you did not, please contact the DRC [helpdesk](#) via email or by calling (800) 459-6530.

Permissions for district and school staff users do not need to be assigned until January or February at the earliest. Information about how to assign user permissions will be available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide available in January 2021. DACs should remove portal access for individuals who are no longer employed by the district and adjust user roles to sync with staffing changes.

Technology Readiness

DACs and DTCs should review the Forward Exam System Requirements for the 2020-21 administration year to ensure their testing devices meet at least the minimum required for testing. DTCs should confirm that the district testing devices can support the operating system that is required for running INSIGHT. Technology training videos for DACs and Technology Coordinators will be available November 18. System requirements and other technology resources are available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements and Resources webpage](#).

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATES

Accountability

Notification Requirements in 2020-21

All schools - private and public - are required to share their **most recent** School and District Report Card with parents, along with a list of educational options for the students in the district. Due to [2019 Wisconsin Act 185](#), there are no 2019-20 report cards, so the **most recent report cards are from 2018-19**. Further details can be found on the [notification requirements page](#).

Closer Look at Report Card Changes

While there will be no report cards released this year, OEA is working to securely release accountability **preview reports in January/February** using data from prior years to demonstrate design and calculation changes that we have worked on with our Accountability Advisory Group and other state and national experts and stakeholders.

Target Group Outcomes: Achievement & Growth

In last week's Assessment Update, we discussed how the new Target Group Outcomes priority area will use a multi-measures scoring approach. Today, we will discuss two of these measures: Target Group Outcomes achievement and growth.

The Target Group achievement and growth scores will be calculated using the same methodology as the "all students" achievement and growth scores. For achievement, this means a weighted average of ELA and mathematics points-based proficiency rates, and for growth, a value-added growth measure. The only difference is that these calculations will **only apply to Target Group students** and not all tested students at the school. Note that Target Group students will continue to remain in the "all students" achievement and growth calculations (and other priority areas) in addition to Target Group scoring. For more information on how achievement and growth calculations work, please see our [Accountability Resources page](#) (note that this page will be updated with resources specific to the preview reports in the coming months).

These achievement and growth methodologies have demonstrated reliability in student performance over time, and familiarity with these measures allows stakeholders to clearly interpret the results and focus on continuous improvement. In an upcoming DAC digest, we'll cover the scoring of Target Group regular attendance and graduation/attendance. Please email us at OEAMail@dpi.wi.gov with any questions in the meantime.



Division of Student and School Success
Office of Educational Accountability
(608) 267-1072

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