



Assessment Update for Parental Choice Schools

March 26, 2025

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

ACT

New:

ACT Administration Update

ACT Test Window 1 is now complete. Approximately 70% of students statewide have completed testing. Thank you to all the district and school staff who have completed testing so far.

Test Window 2 Reminders

ACT Test Window 2 opened on March 25. Paper standard testing has concluded, and paper accommodated and online testing will conclude April 4. Upon completion, pack and return all paper test materials according to the instructions in the [Test Coordinator Information Manual](#) and [Test Administration Manuals](#). Return all test materials by the dates outlined in the [2025 ACT Schedule of Events](#).

Accommodation Support Rosters

Before testing day, DACs and Test Coordinators should [run an Accommodation Supports Roster Report](#) in PearsonAccess^{next} (PAnext). Verify all accommodated testing students are on the roster and the correct accommodations are listed for each student. If a student is missing or incorrect accommodations are applied, reach out to ACT immediately: (319) 337-1590.

Final ACT Test Window

Tuesday, **April 8 will be the final ACT paper standard time testing date**. Please see the [2025 ACT Schedule of Events](#) for Test Window 3 accommodated and online testing dates.

- Place orders for Test Window 3 this week, **March 25-28**. Use of previously shipped testing materials will result in a misadministration.
- Schools may use online testing in place of paper testing for make-ups.
- Instructions on how to switch students from paper testing to online testing are outlined in the [Switching from Paper to Online Testing](#) document.
- Schools can create new test sessions for Test Window 3 starting April 2.

PreACT Secure

New:

PreACT Secure Administration Update

PreACT Secure testing is off to a great start with approximately 15% of students statewide tested. Thank you to all the district and school and staff who have completed testing so far. Please test early in the window to allow adequate time for make-up sessions. All testing must be completed by April 25.

Accommodation Support Rosters

Before testing day, DACs and Test Coordinators should run an [Accommodation Supports Roster](#) in PearsonAccess^{next} (PANext). Verify all accommodated testing students are on the roster and the correct accommodations are listed for each student. If a student is missing or incorrect accommodations are applied, remove the student from the test session, add accommodations and place the student back into the test session.

Post Testing Reminders

Once testing is complete:

- Complete all test administration forms for each testing room and collect materials.
- Enter any test irregularity reports into PearsonAccess^{next} (paper and online). [Online Administration Manual](#) (p. 39).
- Upload seating diagrams into PANext - (online testing).
- Prepare and return all **paper accommodated secure materials** to ACT (p. 31 of [Test Coordinator Manual](#)).

Note: Do not return any online testing materials to ACT. Retain testing staff lists and agreements onsite for one year and destroy secure testing materials within 72 hours. See [Test Coordinator Information Manual](#) (p. 32) for complete instructions.

Reminder:

PreACT Secure Test Window

The PreACT Secure test window opened on March 17. All testing must be completed by April 25. Checklists for both [Test Coordinators](#) and [Technical Coordinators](#) are provided to make sure you are on track for the 2025 administration. Please test early in the window to allow adequate time for make-up sessions. Please see the [March 12 PreACT Secure program email](#) for testing resources and reminders.

Forward Exam

New:

Forward Exam Administration Update

The Forward Exam test window opened on March 17. Districts have been doing a great job testing early in the window. In the first week of testing, over 60% of districts started testing and 15% of testing has been completed. Please test early in the window to allow adequate time for make-up sessions. All testing must be completed by April 25.

Forward Exam 10th Grade Social Studies

This is an important reminder to ensure your 10th grade students are able to participate in the Forward Social Studies Exam. Allow time in your 10th grade testing schedules for the Forward Exam. All testing must be completed by April 25.

Reminders:

Disable Background Applications on Testing Devices

Before testing, districts must ensure that background processes and features are disabled on student testing devices. Examples include instructional software (e.g., Grammarly), AI features (e.g., Microsoft Copilot), and screen readers (e.g., Chromevox, VoiceOver). These examples are not a comprehensive list. See page 22 of the Forward Exam Technology User Guide Volume 1, available on the [Forward Exam Technology Resources webpage](#), for more information.

Stacked Translation

Districts and schools should confirm that students are assigned the correct support before testing. The Forward Exam Practice Test can be used to determine if a student should be assigned the 'Stacked Translation (Spanish) with English (STE) Audio' or the 'Stacked Translation (Spanish) with Spanish (STS) Audio' Designated Support. If a student begins testing with the wrong audio assigned, the district must contact DPI to determine if the test can be purged. Tests cannot be purged if a student has completed more than two test questions, so it is important to ensure the correct support is assigned before testing. Test Administrators should check the student test ticket prior to the start of testing to verify that the Spanish translation with English Audio (STE) or Spanish Audio (STS) has been assigned appropriately. If STS or STE does not appear on the ticket, it will not be available to the student. Note that if the student requires occasional text read in the other language (English or Spanish), you may also assign the Read Aloud (Human Reader) Designated Support in either English or Spanish. Please share this information with your Test Administrators.

New Student Status Dashboard

This is a reminder that the Student Status Dashboard has been removed from the DRC INSIGHT Portal and has been replaced by the new Student Status and Test Status Reports, which can be found under Scoring and Reporting > Reporting Services > Operational Dashboard. More information is available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide on page 40, available on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#).

Educator Involvement Opportunities

DPI is still recruiting Wisconsin educators (including English learner and special education teachers) to participate in the Forward Exam New Item Review (deadline to apply is May 2). Item review is an important step in the development of the Forward Exam. This is a great opportunity to be a part of the Forward Exam development, have detailed input on the test questions, and take knowledge back to your district about the process. More information, including how to apply, is available on the [Forward Exam Educators Involvement webpage](#). Please share this information with your educators.

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
Chromebook Tech Bulletin	Chromebook Rendering Issues and Troubleshooting Steps Tech Bulletin.	Forward
Educator Involvement Application	Educators may apply for New Item Review.	Forward
Writing Rich Classrooms: Unit Plans	Low-stakes, high-impact writing units across grade levels and writing genres.	

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
March 25	Start of ACT Test Window 2	ACT
March 31 - April 25	District window to opt-out of receiving paper Individual Student Reports (ISRs)	Forward
April 8	Start of ACT Test Window 3/final paper testing day	ACT
April 8	Combined ACT/PreACT Secure Office Hours - Online Reporting	ACT/PreACT Secure
April 25	Forward and PreACT Secure test windows close	WSAS
May 2	Deadline to apply for Forward Exam New Item Review (educator involvement opportunity)	Forward
May 13	May Demographics Snapshot - assessment demographics on accountability reports (including the School and District Accountability Reports) are collected from WISE	WSAS and Accountability
May 27	ISRs and Summary Data available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal	Forward



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