

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

ACT with writing

New:

Verification of Non-Choice Student Testing

Later today, assessment coordinators will receive an email from DPI asking for verification of the number of non-choice students that completed the ACT during any of the state testing days/windows. Please verify the number of non-choice students who tested as soon as possible so final invoices may be distributed to schools.

Test Window 3

ACT Test Window 3 started April 13. All standard paper testing materials from the paper April 13 test date were scheduled to be picked up by FedEx on April 14. If your materials were not picked up, please reach out to ACT immediately to schedule a pick-up: (800) 553-6244, ext. 2800. The paper accommodation test window is scheduled April 13-16 and 19-23. Online testing (standard and accommodations) is scheduled for April 13-15 and 20-22. If you are administering online make-up testing during Test Window 3 you will need to order the Online Testing Materials Return Kit to return your materials. Materials for both paper accommodation and online testing are scheduled to be picked up by FedEx on April 26.

April 15 Office Hours - Rescheduled

The ACT/DPI Office Hours, "Accessing Your Reports" originally scheduled for April 15 has been rescheduled and will now be held on Thursday, April 29 at 9:00 am. This Office Hours will specifically focus on how and when schools and districts can access their ACT and Aspire data through Success.ACT and PearsonAccessNext. Please pass along this training opportunity to all applicable staff. As a reminder, there are no Office Hours scheduled for April 15 or April 22.

Meeting Link: [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#).

Aspire

New:

Paper Accommodated Materials

If a student needs paper accommodated materials, please place an order directly in PAnext for those materials. Please see the [Aspire Test Coordinator Manual](#) (page 29) for instructions on how to submit an order. May 7 is the deadline to order paper accommodated materials for testing.

Reminder:

Student Transfers

It is important that Test Coordinators review and approve student transfer requests promptly. Test Coordinators will be notified of any transfer requests via email and will receive a notification in the Aspire PAnext portal. Please follow the instructions on page 47 of the [Aspire Test Coordinator Manual](#) to process a transfer. As a reminder, do not approve transfer requests for students who have completed testing.

Forward Exam

New:

Summer 2021 Educator Involvement Opportunity - Virtual New Item Review

OEA is looking to recruit a diverse group of educators from all over Wisconsin (including EL and special education teachers) to participate in this Summer's virtual "New Item Review" for the Forward Exam. This is a great opportunity to be a part of assessment development, provide valuable feedback, have detailed input about the items on the Forward Exam, and take knowledge back to your school about the process.

For more information about the virtual Item Review Meetings including dates, logistics, and application information, go to the [Forward Exam Educator Involvement Opportunities webpage](#). Please share this information with all grade 3-8 and 10 educators in your school. Their input is invaluable during this stage of item development. **Deadline to apply is May 7.**

Reminders:

No Text-Dependent Analysis (long write) Session for the 2021 Administration

To reduce the workload on educators and students and reduce testing times in 2021, the Text Dependent Analysis (TDA) session has been removed from the Forward ELA Exam for one year.

Please ensure all staff are aware of this change. It is important that ELA educators and Test Administrators know about this change prior to preparing for the exam. The TDA will be included in the 2022 Forward Exam.

Tips for Forward Testing

- Ensure device resolution is 1024 x 768 or better (see testing device requirements in the [System Requirements](#)) and that the zoom is 100% to allow test questions to render correctly.
- Have IT staff verify that "Allow App to Manage Power" is turned off (see [Technology User Guide](#) Volume III Step 20) to prevent Chromebooks from going to "sleep" during testing.
- Accessibility features must be entered on an individual student basis or with the mass upload of common features (see [DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide](#) pp 18-19). The Multiple Student Upload (MSU) cannot be used to upload accommodations and supports during the test window.
- All purge requests must go through DPI (see [DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide](#) pp 33-35).
- If you plan to do the practice test with students immediately prior to the testing, DO NOT distribute test tickets until you are ready to begin the actual Forward Exam.
- Set-up and device readiness – (See also [Preparing Virtual Student Devices for On-site Testing](#)).
 - Verify the necessary URLs are allowed on firewalls and content filters
 - Verify software updates and Operating System updates have been applied
 - Verify the DRC INSIGHT software is installed on testing devices and is up to date
 - If local firewalls are used on COS Service Devices and/or testing devices make sure they do not restrict testing traffic
 - Verify the right test content is downloaded and current using COS Content Management
 - Perform a system readiness check on student devices when they come on site and prior to testing

Assessment and Accountability COVID-19 Related Updates

For assessment and accountability COVID-19 Updates please visit:

- [COVID-19 – Accountability Updates and Resources](#)
- [COVID-19 – Assessment Updates and Resources](#)
- [COVID-19 Assessment FAQ](#)



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