

From: Sengupta, Sumana DPI [mailto:Sumana.Sengupta@dpi.wi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 9:52 AM
To: Teasdale, Jennifer C. DPI
Subject: Wisconsin Forward Exam - OSA News Flash

Good morning, District Assessment Coordinators.

The following email was sent to District Administrators this morning. We will be providing further information regarding our new 3-8 assessment, the Wisconsin Forward Exam, in the coming weeks.

Dear School and District Leaders,

The biennial budget (2015 Wisconsin Act 55) required the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to procure a new state assessment for students in the 2015-16 school year. The new assessment, known as the Wisconsin Forward Exam, will be administered in spring 2016 in English language arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8, and science in grades 4, 8, and 10. High school students in grades 9 through 11 will continue to take the ACT suite of exams.

Data Recognition Company (DRC), a Midwestern assessment company with a Wisconsin office, was successful in a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) procurement process to develop, administer, and report results on the new Forward Exam. The procurement was conducted by the Department of Administration for DPI.

We are pleased to announce that this online assessment will be specifically developed for Wisconsin students, with input from Wisconsin educators. The Forward Exam is expected to be shorter than the Badger Exam. We thank you for your patience as we went through the RFP process. We will do our best to ensure a smooth transition to the Forward Exam. In the interest of stability for our students, educators, families, and school communities, it is our hope that we will retain the Forward Exam for years to come.

Further information about the exam and its administration will be communicated to your district assessment coordinator (DAC) in coming months. For more information, please contact the Office of Student Assessment at osamail@dpi.wi.gov or visit <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward>.

Sincerely,

Mike Thompson, PhD
Deputy State Superintendent

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