



# The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

January 31, 2024

## ACCESS for ELLs

### Reminders:

#### Test Window Closing

The ACCESS for ELLs test window closes on **February 2**. Please ensure that all students have completed all sections of the assessment by the end of that school day. The WIDA AMS portal will remain open for another week to allow you to update demographics and order additional UPS shipping labels under the Additional Materials tab.

#### Materials

In the WIDA AMS under Report Delivery > Test Results you may choose the Report option called 'Secure Materials Tracking Reports' to see what DRC has received from your district and what is still outstanding. All materials should be on their way back to DRC by February 9. If you need additional yellow District/School labels for students who did not get a Pre-ID label, email [Jesse Roberts](mailto:Jesse.Roberts@dpi.wisconsin.gov) with the district and school names and numbers, along with the number of labels needed.

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## ACT

### New:

#### Newly Enrolled Students

ACT will automatically send testing materials and barcode labels for all students listed on your roster by January 31. To enroll students after January 31, follow the steps outlined under the **Add or Remove Student** section of the [PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> User Guide](#). **Newly enrolled students will not automatically receive testing materials.** You must manually place an order for test materials within the PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> site. Instructions for ordering additional test materials are outlined in the PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> User Guide, within the **Requirements for Additional Materials Order** section.

#### Upcoming ACT Trainings

Visit the [DPI ACT Training webpage](#) to register for these upcoming ACT trainings:

- Test Administration #2 webinar - February 10, 10:30 - 11:30 am.
- Office Hours - Testing Virtual Students - February 21, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.



## Student Preparation and Sample Tests

Free ACT practice tests and preparation materials can be found on the [DPI ACT Practice Tests and Sample Items webpage](#).

## Reminders:

### Verify Student Rosters in PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup> - Due: January 31

On January 26, DPI loaded school ACT student rosters into [PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>](#). Testing staff will have until **January 31** to verify student enrollment is correct and indicate testing mode for each student (paper or online). Instructions on how to complete this task are outlined in the [January 26 DPI ACT Program email](#) and resources can also be found under [Step 2, Configuration: Verify Enrollment Counts on the Wisconsin ACT webpage](#).

### Accommodations Reconsideration Deadline - February 2

The reconsideration deadline for accommodations and English learner supports is February 2. This deadline applies to **reconsideration requests only**. If you have an initial request where ACT has issued a decision notification that requires further review, please submit the request for reconsideration no later than February 2. For assistance, please see [Requesting Reconsideration \(TAA User Guide\)](#).

### Educator Involvement Opportunity

DPI is recruiting a diverse group of Wisconsin educators to establish cut scores for the ACT in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science. These cut scores are independent of ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks and are used for state accountability. The Standard Setting will be an in-person, two-day meeting held in Madison on July 10-11, 2024. For more information about this opportunity and instructions on how to apply, visit the [DPI ACT Educator Involvement Opportunities webpage](#).

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## PreACT Secure

### New:

#### Student Preparation and Sample Test

A paper practice test for the PreACT Secure is now available on the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#), (Step 4). It is available as a PDF that can be printed and distributed for students to become familiar with the content, format, and testing procedures of the assessment. An online version of the practice test is still in development and is expected to be released in late February. Districts can still use the ACT online practice test to familiarize students with TestNav.

#### Office Hours

ACT and DPI will hold the first of two PreACT Secure Office Hours on Tuesday, February 6, 10:00 am. Visit the [DPI PreACT Secure Training webpage](#) to register for this event and all future training opportunities.



**Reminder:****Student Roster Upload**

DPI loaded PreACT Secure student rosters into PAnext on January 26. Schools can now begin verifying rosters and assigning accommodations. DPI and ACT will send out detailed instructions via email on how to complete these tasks the week of January 29. Instructions and resources can also be found in the [Step 2, Configuration: Verify Enrollment Counts on the Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#).

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**DLM****Reminder:****Test Preparation Steps to be Completed by February 23**

In order to prepare for the spring administration of the DLM, districts should complete the following four critical tasks by February 23.

- Create teacher user accounts and ensure security agreements have been accepted
- Complete teacher training
- Roster students
- Complete First Contact Surveys and Personal Needs and Preference Profiles

Contact [Mike Peacy](#) with any questions related to the DLM and preparation for the 2024 administration.

**Learning Map Review**

DLM is seeking science curriculum experts, special educators, and science educators across all grade levels in Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Physical Science, to serve on expert panels to review new science learning map neighborhoods for the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment. If you are interested in participating, please complete the [Interest Survey](#) by the end of the day on Wednesday, February 7. This is not a commitment to attend or a guarantee of participation. If you would like more details, please contact [Mike Peacy](#).

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**Forward Exam****New:****DRAFT ELA Short Write Task Rubric Now Available**

DRC has released the grade 3 DRAFT rubrics for the ELA short write tasks. Once finalized there will be grade-level rubrics for each writing mode. This DRAFT rubric will provide educators with information about how the short write tasks will be scored. The rubrics are based on W3 in the ELA writing standards for each grade. Rubrics will not be finalized until after the [ELA Rangefinding meeting](#) which will occur in April. Finalized grade-level rubrics will not be released until late summer or early fall. The DRAFT rubric is available on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#).



## Student Data Upload

The student data submitted to DRC on January 25 will be available for users to view and edit on March 4. Please ensure that any corrections made to the data in the DRC INSIGHT Portal are also reflected in the district's Student Information System (SIS). The student demographic data file that is used to upload multiple student accessibility features during the Optional Add Accessibility Features Window will be available for download on February 12.

## Reminders:

### Forward Exam Q&A webinar

On February 7 at 12:30 pm, the second of three optional Q&A webinar sessions will take place (see the [Forward Exam Calendar webpage](#) for third Q&A webinar date). This webinar is an opportunity to ask DPI and DRC staff questions about Forward Exam test set-up, administration, or technology that may have come up after reviewing the training videos and other resources. To join the webinar on February 7, please use this [Forward Exam Q&A webinar session Zoom link](#).

### ELA Test Design and Short Write Tasks Information and FAQ

We appreciate the questions from Districts regarding the new ELA test design and short write tasks. These topics are discussed in detail in the DAC/SAC Training and the Test Administrator Trainings available on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#). There is also a handout available on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#) that explains the changes and provides answers to common questions about the short write tasks. Share this handout with your educators. We have also included the short write task FAQs on the [Forward Exam Frequently Asked Questions webpage](#).

### Optional Add Accessibility Features Window Begins February 12

During this optional window (February 12-23), districts may use the Multiple Student Upload process to upload designated supports and accommodations for multiple students at one time into the DRC INSIGHT Portal. This two-week **optional** window is the only time this method of uploading accessibility features is available. As a reminder, Text-to-Speech is now a Universal Support for all students and does not need to be assigned in the Portal. If you choose not to take advantage of the window, you may still enter supports and accommodations into the DRC INSIGHT Portal on an individual student or "mass assign" basis as needed, beginning March 4. Instructions for all three processes are available in the [DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide](#).

### Read Aloud (Human Reader) Accommodation Prior Approval

The Read Aloud **accommodation** is different from the Read Aloud **designated support**. The accommodation is only available to a student with visual impairments who is receiving instruction in contracted braille but not yet proficient, and whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan. The student must meet all five criteria on the [Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form for the Forward Exam](#). If a student requires the Read Aloud accommodation and meets the criteria stated on the form, the DAC must submit a Request for Read Aloud Accommodation Form to the Office of Educational

Accountability. DPI will review the request, and if approved, activate the process. After receiving DPI approval, the DAC must assign the accommodation in the DRC INSIGHT Portal for the student prior to printing test tickets. Students who do not meet all criteria but require Read Aloud (a human reader) should use the Read Aloud designated support.

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## NAEP and International Assessments

*(for schools selected to participate in 2023-24 assessments only)*

### **New:**

#### **NAEP Assessment Window Extended**

The NAEP assessment window opened on January 29. The window closure has been extended from March 8 to March 22, 2024. Each school has one assigned test date in the window. As a reminder, NAEP School Coordinators should be finalizing the Assessment Planning Tasks in the [NAEP Assessment Management System \(AMS\)](#); all tasks need to be completed before the school's test date. NAEP field staff are following up with individual schools to provide support in completing remaining tasks. DACs can review the progress of most of the tasks in the NAEP AMS but will not have full access to all the tasks unless they are also designated as the School Coordinator. Please contact [Angela Dugas](#) if there are any questions.

See the [NAEP webpage](#) for grade levels and content areas assessed, dates, additional information, and resources. Contact [Angela Dugas](#) with any questions. If there are issues with the [NAEP AMS](#), please contact the NAEP Help Desk at [NAEPHelp@westat.com](mailto:NAEPHelp@westat.com) or (800) 283-6237. To reset your password for the NAEP AMS, click "Learn more about how to log in" and then click "Forgot password".

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## Reading Readiness

### **Reminder:**

#### **Update on Act 20 Reading Legislation**

Deputy State Superintendent John Johnson sent an [email to all District Administrators](#) on Tuesday, January 23 about the ACT 20 reading legislation that was recently signed into law. These requirements will go into effect beginning with the 2024-25 school year. For detailed information about requirements for screening go to the [Assessment of Reading Readiness Overview webpage](#).

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## 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
<a href="#">Student Transfer Request for ACCESS for ELLs form</a>	Request transfer of students into your district.	ACCESS

## Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
January 31	Last day to Verify ACT Student Rosters in PANext	ACT
January 31	NAEP High School Transcript Study submissions due (for High Schools participating in NAEP 2024 only)	NAEP
February 2	Test window closes	ACCESS
February 5	Begin creating and assigning students to test sessions	ACT
February 5 - March 5	Material order window for Test Window 1	ACT
February 6	Attend PreACT Secure Office Hour	PreACT Secure
February 7	Forward Exam Q&A Webinar	Forward
February 12	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1 (early date selection)	ACT
February 12	Begin training ACT testing staff	ACT
February 12-23	Optional Add Accessibility Features window	Forward
February 13	All materials must be received by DRC for scoring	ACCESS

Date	Event	Program
February 19	ACT materials ship for Test Window 1	ACT
February 21-29	Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window	ACCESS
February 23	Verify Users and students are updated in Educator Portal	DLM
February 23	Verify students are rostered and First Contact Surveys complete	DLM
February 23	Verify Teachers have completed their trainings	DLM
February 26	Paper testing order window opens	PreACT Secure



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<https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/correspondence>

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