



Assessment Update for Parental Choice Schools

January 4, 2024

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

OEA

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2024! Thank you for all of the thoughtful questions and feedback around implementing assessments and accountability in the last year. OEA looks forward to continuing our collaborative work with all of you in the new year.

Verify Student Data

DPI will load student data from WISEdata into the DRC INSIGHT Portal (Forward) and PearsonAccess^{next} (ACT with writing and PreACT Secure). To ensure that you have the correct roster of students for testing, please make certain that your student enrollment and demographic data are correct in WISEdata before the end of the day on January 25.

ACT

New:

Training Webinar

On Wednesday, January 10 at 11:00 am, ACT will host this year's [ACT Online Site Readiness training webinar](#). DPI strongly encourages all schools testing online to attend this webinar **with their School Technology Coordinator**. Visit the [DPI ACT Training webpage](#) for a list of all 2024 ACT training opportunities and recordings.

Reminders:

ACT with Writing for Non-Choice Students

Non-choice students will again be allowed to take the ACT with Writing on the state administration dates. Cost for the test will be \$54.25 per student. Order forms will be sent to assessment coordinators later today with the order deadline set for January 19.

Online Testing Site Readiness Service

This year, ACT will provide Wisconsin schools with an optional Online Testing Site Readiness Service. This helpful service will allow districts to connect directly with an ACT Customer Support Specialist trained in the technical requirements and support of online administration. This service is optional and interested districts will need to opt-in with ACT by **Tuesday, January 8**. Additional information and instructions on how to participate was sent to DACs on Monday, December 18. DPI encourages districts to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure they are ready for online testing.

Accommodation Requests Reminder

The deadline to submit requests for spring 2024 testing is **January 19**. DPI strongly encourages schools to **enter requests into the Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA) now** to avoid delays and allow time for reconsideration if needed.

- Submit requests early - well before the **January 19 deadline**.

- Refer to [Step 3: Accommodation, on the Wisconsin ACT Webpage](#) for accommodation and EL support resources and training.
- Log into the TAA to view status and decisions on accommodations/EL support requests.
 - If a request is not approved, you can submit again for reconsideration.
 - [Reach out to OSA](#) as soon as possible if you are experiencing difficulty receiving an approval for an accommodation.

Video American Sign Language - Available Spring 2024

ACT is currently working to develop Video American Sign Language (VASL) for all content areas as an authorized accommodation for students with hearing impairments. VASL will be available for spring 2024 testing for both paper and online testing. More information on how VASL will be administered to students will be available early next year. Please review the revised [ACT Accessibility Supports Guide](#) for additional information on VASL.

PreACT Secure

New:

2024 Testing Resources

The following PreACT Secure testing resources have now been posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage](#). Please disseminate this information out to all testing staff.

- Schedule of Events - Important Dates
- PearsonAccess^{next} User Guide for PreACT Secure - Step 1
- Online testing technical resources - Step 2
- Accessibility Supports Guide for PreACT Secure - Step 4
- All test administration manuals, forms and administration supplement - Step 5

Reminder:

PreACT Secure for Non-Choice Students

9th and 10th grade non-choice students will again be allowed to take the PreACT Secure under the state contract. Cost for the test will be \$18 per student. Order forms will be sent to assessment coordinators later today with the order deadline set for January 19.

Accommodation Supports Guide and Video American Sign Language

The 2024 PreACT Secure Accessibility Supports Guide is now available and has been posted to the [Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage, Step 3](#). Video American Sign Language (VASL) will also be available for the PreACT Secure spring administration for online testing only.

As a reminder, PreACT Secure accommodations do not need prior approval from ACT and staff will enter student accommodations directly into the [PearsonAccess^{next} portal](#). Testing staff can begin entering accommodations for students on January 29, 2024. Additional information will be disseminated in January.

Forward Exam

New:

Forward Exam for Non-Choice Students

Non-Choice students will again be able to take the Forward Exam with the cost of the exam remaining at \$35 per student. The order form can be found at [Forward Exam Order Form](#).

2024 Forward Exam Resources

The DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide and the Test Administration Manual will be available January 8 on the [Forward Exam Resources webpage](#).

New Forward Exam Practice Test

The new Forward Exam Practice Test, for each tested grade and content level, is now available on the [Forward Exam Practice Test webpage](#). All students should be given the opportunity to practice with the online Forward Exam Practice test as new tools and functionality have been included (e.g., Text-to-Speech Universal Tool for all students). [Updated Student Tutorials](#) are also now available and should be used in conjunction with the practice test.

2024 Forward Exam Trainings

The Forward Exam pre-recorded trainings for District and School Assessment Coordinators (DACs/SACs) and Test Administrators (TAs) will be available January 8 on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#).

- **DAC/SAC Training** - This is a full training required for all DACs/SACs that did not attend the in-person training sessions in November.
- **Test Administrator (TA) Training** - This training is required for all TAs and covers all information TAs need to prepare for and administer the Forward Exam. DACs should ensure that all TAs view this training.

Forward Exam Q&A webinar

On January 10 at 12:30 pm, the first of three optional Q&A webinar sessions will take place (see the [Forward Exam Calendar webpage](#) for additional dates). This webinar is an opportunity for District and School Assessment Coordinators (DACs/SACs) and District and School Technology Coordinators (DTCs/STCs) 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. Please share this information with your DTCs, SACs, and STCs. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the [Forward Exam Trainings webpage](#) for those who cannot attend the live session. To join the webinar on January 10, please use this [Forward Exam Q&A webinar session Zoom link](#).

Reminder:

Educator Involvement Opportunities

DPI is currently recruiting a diverse group of educators from all over Wisconsin (including English learner and special education teachers) to participate in three separate Forward Exam Educator Involvement Opportunities. These events are all important steps in the development and scoring of the Forward Exam. This is a great opportunity to be a part of the Forward Exam development and scoring, have detailed input on the exam, and take knowledge back to your district about the processes.

- Rangefinding
- Standard Setting
- New Item Review

More information about each opportunity, including how to apply, is available on the [Forward Exam Educators Involvement webpage](#). Educators interested in one or more events need to submit only one application. There is a question in the application which asks the applicant to select the educator involvement opportunities they would like to participate in and may select all that apply. **Please share this information with the educators in your district.**

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
ACT Accessibility Supports Guide (revised)	Guide to all accommodations and supports offered on ACT.	ACT
PreACT Secure Accessibility Supports Guide	Guide to all accommodations and supports offered on PreACT Secure.	PreACT Secure

Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
December 29	New Forward Exam Practice Tests available	Forward
January 8	DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide and Test Administration Manual available	Forward
January 8	DAC and Test Administrator training videos available	Forward
January 8	Updated Student and Administrator tutorials available	Forward
January 8	Deadline: Opt-in to ACT's Online Testing Site Readiness Service	ACT
January 10	First of three DAC, SAC, and DTC Q&A Webinars (see Forward Exam Calendar webpage for additional two webinar dates)	Forward
January 10	Attend ACT online testing/Technology Readiness training	ACT
January 17	Attend Wisconsin specific ACT Office Hour	ACT
January 19	Deadline to submit accommodations/supports in TAA	ACT
January 19	Deadline to notify DPI of intent to administer ACT and PreACT Secure to non-choice students	ACT & PreACT Secure
January 22	PearsonAccess ^{next} (PANext) opens for 2024	PreACT Secure
January 29 - 31	Verify ACT Student Rosters in PANext	ACT
January 29	Student Rosters available in PANext	PreACT Secure
January 30	Attend PreACT Secure Test Administration #1 training	PreACT Secure



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December 2024 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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