



Assessment Update for Parental Choice Schools

December 14, 2023

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

Assessment

New:

Performance Levels Survey

OEA is surveying District Administrators, DACs, and a variety of other stakeholder groups related to options for modifying the current performance level terminology (advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic) to better reflect an asset-based, growth mindset. Research suggests that a growth mindset is associated with students' feelings of encouragement and motivation. Using language that promotes a growth mindset can improve learning by changing the conversation with students, families, and educators.

The survey was sent to Choice Administrators and Choice DACs on December 13. Please consider completing the survey and/or passing it along to interested individuals in your school. The survey should take under five minutes and the completion deadline is December 22.

ACT

New:

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.

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.

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. Please refer to [Step 3: Accommodation on the Wisconsin ACT webpage](#) for accommodation and EL support resources and training.

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. Additional information and instructions on how to participate will be sent to DACs on Tuesday, December 19. DPI encourages districts to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure they are ready for online testing.

PreACT Secure

New:

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

Reminders:

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** - Participants will review student writing responses to finalize the short write rubrics, approve scoring guides, and select anchor, training, and qualifying papers used by evaluators to score the Forward Exam new ELA short write tasks.
- **Standard Setting** - Participants will recommend cut scores for the Forward Exam in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The cut scores separate students into one of the four achievement levels, which provide clear indicators of a student's level in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards and indicate if they are on track for future learning.
- **New Item Review** - Participants will review new ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies test questions created for the exam for content, grade level appropriateness, alignment to correct standard, cultural inclusivity, and bias/sensitivity issues prior to placement on the exam.

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.**

2024 DRC INSIGHT Portal Permissions

DRC has assigned DACs permission to access the 2024 DRC INSIGHT Portal. DACs do not need to assign permissions to other users until January or February 2024. Information about how to assign users will be provided in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Guide, available on January 8. DACs who did not receive the email from “noreply@datarecognitioncorp.com” with the subject line “Your DRC INSIGHT Portal Account Has a New Profile”, please contact the [DRC Help Desk](#) at (800) 459-6530.

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 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 notify DPI of intent to administer ACT and PreACT Secure to non-choice students	ACT & PreACT Secure
January 19	Deadline to submit accommodations/supports in TAA	ACT
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



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December 2023 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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