



Assessment Update for Parental Choice Schools

July 27, 2023

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATES

Assessment

New:

2022-23 Assessment Data

DPI will publicly release the statewide assessment results in the fall. Data security and student privacy requirements, as outlined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and state law, must be maintained when results are shared publicly. More information about maintaining student data privacy is available on the [Student Data Privacy webpage](#).

Accessible Reporting

Districts are responsible for ensuring that parents/guardians are provided reports in a language they can understand and in a format that is accessible to them. Districts and schools should take advantage of the reporting resources for parents/guardians available on each assessment's data and results webpage.

Accountability

New:

Report Card Narrative Statement Collection in August

OEA plans to send out the optional report card narrative statement collection survey in August and, as with last year, DACs will receive the link to submit a narrative for your school. As a reminder, this statement provides an opportunity for schools to include information beyond what the data in the report card can capture. If you would like an advance start on preparing your statement(s), you can review last year's submissions on the [report card app](#).

As with prior years, this statement will be a maximum of 400 characters (including spaces) and should only include characters found on a standard keyboard. We will update DACs in the next Assessment Update regarding the collection timeline beginning in August.

ACT

Reminder:

Please visit the [ACT webpage](#) for information, resources, and dates.

PreACT Secure

Reminder:

Please visit the [PreACT Secure webpage](#) for information, resources, and dates.

Forward Exam

New:

Changes to the Forward ELA Exam Design

The spring 2024 Forward Exam for English Language Arts (ELA) will be aligned to the new Wisconsin Standards for ELA (adopted in 2020). The changes to the standards provided the opportunity to make changes to the test design beginning with the 2023-24 administration. These changes include:

- There will only be three test sessions instead of four. The test sessions will be:
 - Session 1 - Reading Comprehension
 - Session 2 - Language Arts/Writing
 - Session 3 - Language Arts/Writing
- The listening session has been removed from the Forward Exam.
- The Text Dependent Analysis has been removed and replaced with new writing tasks. In test sessions 2 and 3, students will be asked to provide a one-paragraph writing sample in response to a prompt, in addition to answering language arts and writing questions.

Descriptions of the new writing tasks are provided below.

1. Students will be asked to write a one-paragraph response to a writing prompt in a specific mode (e.g., narrative, opinion, argumentative, informative) based on grade-level standards.
2. Students will be asked to read a short passage and write a one-paragraph response to a related writing prompt in a specific mode (e.g., narrative, opinion, argumentative, informative) based on grade-level standards. The associated passage should be used by the student to support their writing or as mentor text depending on the prompt.

Updated Forward Exam Practice Tests will be available in late fall on the [Forward Exam Practice Tests webpage](#) to help students prepare. The practice test will be available to educators, parents/family, and the public. More information about the newly aligned assessments will be communicated over the next several months.

Reminder:

Forward Exam Reports Available

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary reports were made available electronically in the DRC INSIGHT Portal on June 16. Hard copy ISRs were delivered to schools by July 14. Please share ISRs with parents/guardians as soon as possible after receipt, either in hard copy or via your secure parent portal. When sending ISRs home, schools should make use of the resources created to help parents/guardians understand their child's Forward Exam results. All [parent/guardian resources](#) are available in English, Spanish, and Hmong versions.

Schools may use the data for professional development and curriculum/instructional planning. Any staff viewing/working with Forward Exam results who have not signed a 2022-23 Forward Exam Confidentiality Form must complete the "[Report User Confidentiality Form](#)". These signed forms should be retained at the school. DPI will publicly release the statewide assessment results in the fall.

DAC Contact Updates

Reminder:

Keeping Contact Information Updated During the Summer and Submitting Annual Forms for 2023-24

Please keep District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) contact information up to date over the summer and as staffing changes occur in the next school year by completing a [DAC Update form](#).

The 2023-24 annual [District Assessment Coordinator \(DAC\) and Technology Coordinator \(DTC\) contact update forms](#) required for both new and returning DACs and DTCs should be submitted. These forms must be signed by the Choice Administrator.

WISEdash Advisory Group Announcement

New:

Help Shape the Future of WISEdash

DPI is starting a WISEdash Advisory Group that will explore topics related to WISEdash, an online data portal that displays student-level data for educators to improve educational outcomes. This group will include around 20 individuals from different roles across varying sizes of school districts and meet quarterly in a virtual setting. Please fill out the [WISEdash Advisory Group Interest Survey](#) if you are interested in participating.

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
The User's Guide to Interpreting Reports	This guide is designed to help district and school staff access, understand, explain, and interpret the results of the Forward Exam.	Forward
Parent/Guardian ISR Resources	Resources created to help parents/guardians understand their child's Forward Exam results. All are available in English, Spanish, and Hmong versions. ISR resources include, Sample ISR Cover Letter, What Is an Individual Student Report (ISR)?, and Spanish or Hmong Translated ISR.	Forward
DRC INSIGHT System Requirements	Updated technology system requirements for student testing devices	Forward



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