

MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION (DOE)

Assessment Lunch & Learn Office Hours

August 19, 2024

Please post questions you may have in the chat box – we will work to answer them during the session and add them to a Q&A document.

We will begin shortly.

Presented by: The Assessment Team





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MSAA Alternate and
ELP Assessments Coordinator



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Welcome to the Maine DOE

Meet Our Team

Assessment

Today's Agenda

General Updates:

- ☐ Maine Through Year and
Maine Science
Assessments
- ☐ National and
International
Assessments
- ☐ ACCESS
- ☐ MSAA

Mission & Vision



To promote the best learning opportunities for all Maine students by providing information, guidance, and support to our schools, educators, and leaders and by providing adequate and equitable school funding and resources.

Technical Assistance

[SAU Request Form for Technical Assistance](#)

Available to all SAUs upon request

Targeted technical assistance continues to focus on participation across the MEA



Assessment Name	Assessment Dates	Window	Delivery Method	Required Participants
Access for ELLs (English Language Proficiency)	January 6, 2025 - February 28, 2025	9 Weeks	Kindergarten: Paper Grade 1-12: Online	English Learners K-12
Alternate Access for ELLs (English Language Proficiency)	January 6, 2025 - February 28, 2025	9 Weeks	Paper/Pencil	English Learners in Grades K-12 with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
Maine Through Year Assessment: Mathematics & Reading	Fall (Required): September 16, 2024 - October 25, 2024 Winter (Optional): January 6, 2025 - February 14, 2025 Spring (Required): April 14, 2025 - May 30, 2025	6 Weeks	Online	Students in Grades 3-8, & 2nd Year of High School
Maine Science Assessment	Grades 5 and 8: May 12, 2025 - May 23, 2025 High School: April 2, 2025 - April 17, 2025	2 Weeks	Online	Grades, 5, 8, & 3rd Year of High School
MSAA: Mathematics & ELA/Literacy	March 10, 2025 - April 25, 2025	6 Weeks	Online	Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities; Grades 3-8, & 3rd Year of High School
MSAA Science	March 10, 2025 - April 25, 2025	6 Weeks	Online	Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities; Grades 5, 8, & 3rd Year of High School

Maine Educational Assessments (MEA)

2024-25 Assessment Calendar

National & International 2024-25 Assessment Calendar

Assessment Name	Assessment Dates	Required Participants
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)	January 2026 - March 2026	Mathematics and Reading Grades 4, 8, & 12 and Science Grade 8 at sampled schools
Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS)	N/A	International survey of principals and teachers at grades 7, 8, and 9 at sampled schools
Program for International Students Assessment (PISA) Field Test	3/17/2025 - 5/9/2025	Math, Reading, and Science age 15 at sampled schools
International Computer Literacy & Information Literacy Study (ICILS)	N/A	Grade 8, Computer & Information Literacy at sampled schools
Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS)	Spring 2026	Grade 4 Reading achievement in literary experience and reading to acquire and use information at sampled schools
Trends in Mathematics & Science Study (TIMSS)	N/A	Grades 4 & 8 Mathematics & Reading at sampled schools

Data Requests

- Suppressed data for 2020-21 to 2022-23 are currently available in the [ESSA Dashboard](#).
- Legacy data (suppressed data for some years prior to those available in the ESSA Dashboard) are available [here](#).
 - Legacy data currently posted does not include 2015-16 to 2018-19.
- To access data from unavailable academic years and/or unsuppressed data, please use the “Submit a Data Request” link at the bottom of the [Data Warehouse page](#).

Preparing for the 2024-25 Maine Educational Assessments

Assessment Security Training

For District and School Assessment Coordinators:

- [Assessment Security Training Video for District and School Assessment Coordinators](#) (11 minutes)
- 2024-25 Assessment Security Handbook: Available on the [Assessment Security webpage](#) by August 20th, 2024

For Assessment Administrators/Proctors:

- [Assessment Security Overview Training Webisode](#) (5 minutes)
- [Assessment Irregularities! What Now? Security Training Webisode](#) (3 minutes)

All staff involved in the administration of Maine Educational Assessments must sign the Assessment Security & Data Privacy Agreement, which is found in Appendix A of the Assessment Security Handbook. The SAU must maintain these agreements throughout the current school year.

Please note that the Maine Through Year Assessment, MSAA, and Maine Science Assessment each have additional assessment-specific trainings.

Maine Comprehensive Assessment System (MECAS) Guidelines

The **MECAS Guidelines** provide schools with information regarding:

- Federal and state assessment requirements
- Enrollment and participation requirements
- Participation exceptions

Student eligibility for the MEAs is based on the enrollment information entered by the SAU into Synergy.

The 2024-25 MECAS Guidelines will be available via the Assessment webpage on August 20th, 2024.

Maine Through Year Assessment

Spring 2024 RIT Scores

Background:

Spring administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment produces two score types:

- **Maine scale score** – Aligned to an achievement level of Well Below, Below, At, or Above State Expectations; used for federal and state accountability
- **RIT score** – Norm-referenced score used for making comparisons either between students or for one student at two different points in time (i.e., growth); used in the state's ESSA plan as one identifier for schools receiving additional support

All questions on the assessment contribute to the RIT score. Some questions contribute to the Maine scale score.

It is possible for there to be differences between the two score types in the classification of student achievement, precision and accuracy of the score, and score validity.

Spring 2024 RIT Scores

Background (continued):

Based on observations and feedback from educators and administrators from multiple Maine SAUs regarding **RIT scores**, Maine DOE requested that NWEA complete additional data validation analyses before the release of finalized Spring 2024 Maine Through Year Assessment student score data.

Concerns are limited to RIT scores.

At this time:

More information will become available very soon.

Some schools may have distributed RIT score results via MAP Growth reports already to families before the finalization of scores.

All schools must still distribute the Individual Student Reports to families when they become available. It is the Maine scale score that is federally required to be reported to families.

2024-25 Through Year Assessment Schedule

Fall 2024 (Required)

September 16 – October 25, 2024

Winter 2025 (Optional)

January 6 – February 14, 2025

Spring 2025 (Required)

April 14 – May 30, 2025

The spring administration will be closed April 21-25 for spring break.

Preparing for the Fall Administration

Secure Browser

- The State Solutions Secure Browser is available for download at NWEA's [State Solutions Secure Browser webpage](#).
- The [2024-25 System & Technology Guide](#) is available now.

Rostering in Acacia

- Acacia opens for pre-administration activities, including creating groups and assigning supports/accommodations, on September 3.
- Students must be enrolled in Synergy in order to be reflected in the school's roster in Acacia. It is the responsibility of the SAU/school to ensure that students are enrolled in Synergy before the first day of the local administration schedule.

Preparing for the Fall Administration

District & School Assessment Coordinator Training

- MEA Security Training: Watch [training video](#), review handbook, and sign Security & Data Privacy Agreement.
- Maine Through Year Assessment: Assessment Coordinator Training Module
 - NWEA is expected to share the module with DACs by August 26.
 - Complete prior to the local administration of the fall Maine Through Year Assessment.
 - Keep a copy of the module completion certificate on file throughout the school year.

Proctor Training

- MEA Security Training: Watch [2 webinars](#) and sign Security & Data Privacy Agreement.
- [Maine Through Year Assessment Proctor Training Video](#) (9 minutes)

Fall 2024 manuals and guides are in final review cycle and will become available on the [NWEA Maine Connections Page](#) in late August.

Virtual Educator Panel:

High School Content & Bias Review

- **Participants:** Educators and school/SAU administrators with experience in high school math and/or reading instruction or curriculum
- **Purpose:** To review questions to ensure assessment material in math and reading is appropriate, free of bias, and aligned to Maine's accountability standards, the Common Core State Standards
- **Dates:** October 22-24, 2024 from 4:00-7:00 PM
- **Location:** Virtual, link will be provided by NWEA
- **Stipend:** \$525, includes attendance at all three evening virtual sessions, as well as 8-12 hours of pre-work (\$100 for each virtual evening session and \$225 for completion of pre-work)

If interested, please complete [this registration form](#).

New NWEA Professional Learning Opportunities for 2024-25

Balanced Assessment Systems for Leaders

- Session 1: What are the main definitions and attributes of an effective, balanced assessment system?
- Session 2: What are best practices for comprehensive assessment planning and improving student outcomes?
- Session 3: What are strategies for creating and sustaining high-quality assessments?
- Session 4: How do the benefits of a balanced assessment system relate to local goals and priorities?

Student-Centered Assessment Literacy

- Session 1: What is assessment literacy? What helps make assessment processes and practices matter to students?
- Session 2: Which structures and strategies support a culture of learning? How do you use classroom assessment tools to build assessment literacy?

Applying Classroom Assessment Standards

- Session 1: What existing frameworks can guide teachers' classroom assessment practices and inform decisions?
- Session 2: What are the main components of quality assessment practices?

Register for Fall 2024 NWEA PL Offerings

Balanced Assessment Systems for Leaders*

- Session 1: September 17, 3:30-4:30 PM
- Session 1: September 18, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- Session 2: October 7, 3:30-4:30 PM
- Session 2: October 16, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Student-Centered Assessment Literacy*

- Session 1: November 12, 3:00-4:30 PM
- Session 2: November 14, 3:00-4:30 PM

Using Achievement Level Descriptors to Ensure Classroom Rigor

- October 17, 3:00-4:30 PM

Triangulating Data for Instructional Insights

(previously titled Using Multiple Data Sources to Inform Instruction)

- October 15, 3:00-4:30 PM

**Participants may attend either session or both sessions. Attendance at session 1 is not necessary for attendance at session 2.*

Maine Through Year Assessment:

Whom do I contact?

NWEA Maine Partner Support

(855) 430-1777

techsupport@nwea.org

- Technical issues with the Acacia platform
- Technical issues with the State Solutions Secure Browser
- Technical issues with the MARC (MAP Growth) platform, including rostering in MARC
- Support with pre-administration activities in the Acacia platform (e.g., creating groups or assigning accommodations)
- Support administering the online assessment
- Information regarding procedures for students taking accommodated paper-based forms
- SAU Data Clean-Up Tasks

Maine DOE MEDMS Helpdesk

MEDMS.Helpdesk@maine.gov

(207) 624-6896

- Fixing a student who incorrectly appears or does not appear in your assessment roster in NEO
- Help determining if a student is eligible for the Maine Through Year Assessment, based on information entered by the SAU into Synergy

Maine DOE Assessment Team

Krista.Averill@maine.gov

(207) 215-6528

- Questions related to assessment content, accessibility, scoring, and reporting
- Policy-related questions
- Fixing a student who appears on your assessment roster in NEO but does not appear in Acacia
 - *Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy.*
- Any problems that NWEA Maine Partner Support or MEDMS Helpdesk are not able to resolve – For NWEA Partner Support, if you have a case number, please provide.

Maine Science Assessment

Maine Science Assessment

Reporting

Reports available in the Kite

Reporting platform in Fall 2024, exact date TBD (anticipated mid-October)

Maine Science Assessment

Looking Ahead to Spring 2025:

Changes to the Administration

- ALL Grade Levels: Removal of Session 4 (Student Questionnaire)
- High School ONLY: Sessions 1, 2, and 3 reduced from 60 minutes each to 50 minutes each
 - No change in the number of questions
 - Spring 2022 and 2023 data reflect that nearly all high school students *without extended time* complete each session within 50 minutes

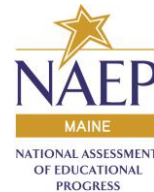
Administration Schedule

- High School: April 2-17, 2025
- Grades 5 and 8: May 12-23, 2025

National and International Assessments

Wrapping up 2024 and moving forward

National and International Assessments - NAEP



Preparations for Main/State NAEP 2026 are underway

NAEP 2024 Update:

- NAEP data release is tentatively scheduled for February 2025

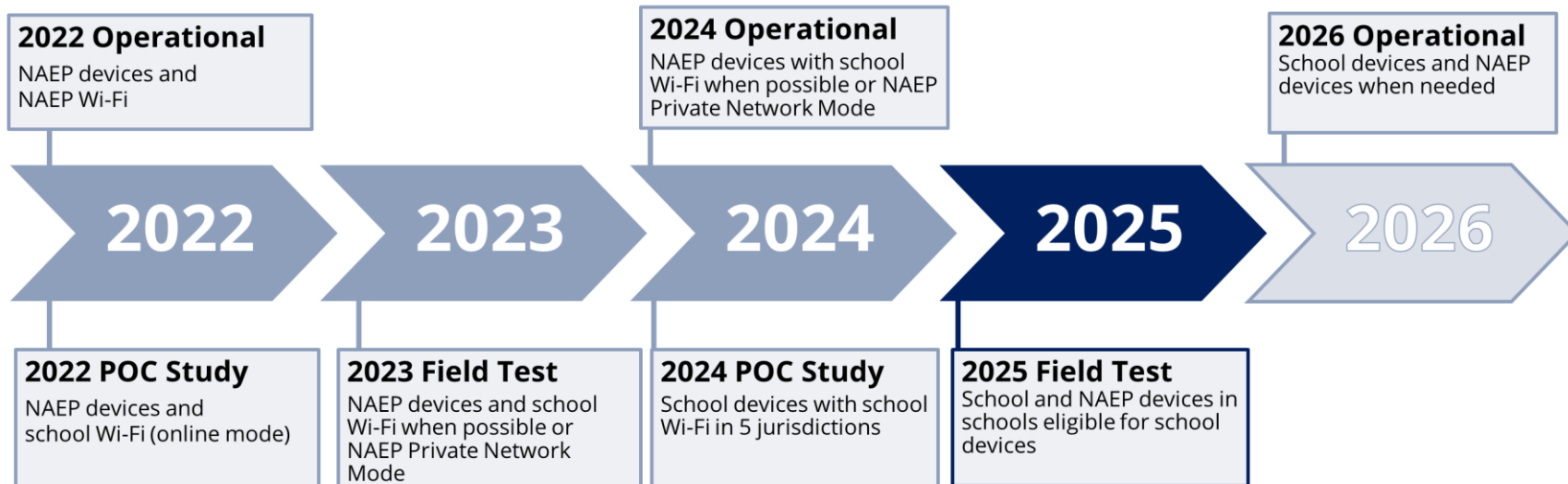
****Reminder: NAEP Transitioning to School Based Devices – Next Steps**

- Field Study 2025
- Operational 2026

National and International Assessments – NAEP





Transition in Technology

Operational Assessments



Special Studies

National and International Assessments – NAEP 2025

	Long-Term Trend 			Field Test 				
Sample Level	National			National			Puerto Rico	
Grade or Age	Age 13	Age 9	Age 17	4	8	12	4	8
Subject (s)	<div><div><div><div>+</div><div>−</div></div><div><div>÷</div><div>×</div></div></div><div></div></div> Math and Reading			<div><div><div><div>+</div><div>−</div></div><div><div>÷</div><div>×</div></div></div><div></div></div> Math and Reading			<div><div><div><div>+</div><div>−</div></div><div><div>÷</div><div>×</div></div></div> Math</div>	
Devices	Paper-based Assessment			School and NAEP devices				
Number of Sessions	1 or 2			2 (1-2 if school devices)				
Students per Session	25 or 50			25 (25-50 if school devices)				
Session Duration	90 minutes			120 minutes				
Questionnaires	School			Student, Teacher, and School				
Assessment Window	Oct 7 – Dec 13, 2024	Jan 6 – Mar 14, 2025	Mar 17 – May 23, 2025	Jan 27 – Mar 7, 2025				

ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS

Maine's general and alternate assessments of English language proficiency

Coordinator: Mechelle Ganglfinger

Upcoming Reporting Dates

9/13/24

WIDA Alternate ACCESS Reports and Data Files Available- Online in WIDA AMS

10/2/24

WIDA Alternate ACCESS Reports Available in District-Printed

The ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS window administration window will be open
January 6th – February 28th, 2025

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Overview of ACCESS for MLs for new Test Coordinators (all coordinators welcome)

Monday, October 21, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: Participants will be provided an overview of WIDA Alternate ACCESS including scheduling, basics of administration, and review of training resources.

Alternate ACCESS for MLs: An overview

Monday, October 28, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: Participants will be provided with information on how to create WIDA user accounts, monitor test administrator training completion, use WIDA AMS, and how to administer the WIDA ACCESS assessment.

Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the ACCESS Assessment

Monday, December 2, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: Participants will be provided with guidance on the selection and administration of Administrative Considerations, Universal Tools, and Accommodations available on the ACCESS assessment.

WIDA ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS

Whom do I contact?

WIDA Client Services Center

1-866-276-7735

Help@WIDA.us

- WIDA Secure Portal account creation
- Assessment training modules
- Self-paced e-learning resources

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)

1-855-787-9615

WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com

- WIDA AMS account creation
- Technical issues with the WIDA AMS platform, including finding students, assigning accommodations, and creating test sessions
- Technical issues with the installation of the DRC lockdown browser

Maine DOE Assessment Team

(207) 242-4244

mechelle.ganglfinger@maine.gov

- Questions related to assessment coordination, administration, and accessibility
- Policy-related questions
- Fixing a student who appears on your assessment roster in NEO but does not appear in WIDA AMS
 - *Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy.*
- Any problems that WIDA and DRC Customer Services are unable to answer

MSAA

Maine's alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards in reading, math and science (AA-AAAS)

Coordinator: Mechelle Ganglfinger

Multi-State Alternate Assessment Reports

- District, school and student reports for the in math/ELA/science are now available for download within the [MSAA System](#).
- Reports will be available 7/15/24 – 9/6/24
- MSAA Test Coordinators will need their MSAA login information to access and download these reports. If there are additional or new personnel within your SAU who will require access to the results data, Test Coordinators will need to establish a new Test Coordinator account with the appropriate permissions (SAU or School level) within the platform.

Has your local Special Education Director changed?

Please ensure the DAC has set up a TC account to access reports.

MSAA Parent Guides by Grade Level

- Parent Guides can be found under the Maine DOE MSAA assessment reports tab: [MSAA Parent Guides](#).
- These family resources provide:
 - an overview of the assessment
 - the importance of academic instruction
 - potential instructional support
 - ideas for collaboration between families and teachers
- Parent Guides by Grade Level are designed to support knowledge and understanding of what is being measured and how the data can be used to improve student outcomes.
- Per suggestion from the field earlier this month, a one-page informational resource is currently under development as well.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

- **1% - Overview of Maine's Alternate Assessments (AA-AAAS)**
Thursday, September 19, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm
- **MSAA: Practical Applications and Intended Uses of Data for Teachers**
Thursday, September 26, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm
- **MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Coordinators**
Monday, November 18, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm
- **MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Test Administrators (TAs)**
Monday, January 13, 2025, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Multi-State Alternate Assessment

Whom do I contact?

MSAA Service Desk

866-834-8879

MSAAServiceCenter@cognia.org

[Live Chat available](#)

- Issues with the platform
- Questions around account permissions/creation
- Mandatory training modules and quiz
- Help logging in

Maine DOE Assessment Team

(207) 242-4244

mechelle.ganglfinger@maine.gov

- Questions related to assessment coordination, administration, and accessibility
- Policy-related questions
- Fixing a student who appears on your assessment roster in NEO but does not appear in the MSAA Platform
 - *Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy.*
- Any problems that MSAA Service Desk is unable to answer

Measure What Matters

Developing a Shared Vision

The Maine Department of Education (DOE) is excited to host community meetings across Maine to bring educators, parents, students, and business leaders together to discuss a shared vision for our schools. These in-person conversations will take place in August and September across the state.

We need your voice!

We're interested in developing relevant ways to recognize and acknowledge what schools are doing to prepare students for success in their lives, a rapidly changing global economy, their careers, and as engaged and productive citizens of Maine. It's time to measure what matters.

Join us at a community conversation near you to share your thoughts about what makes a great school in Maine, how we can best prepare all of our students to thrive, and how we measure the great things happening in Maine schools. Your thoughts and ideas will be used to develop a portrait of a great school in Maine based on what the people of Maine value for our schools.

Dates and Locations: [Sign up here to join a community conversation near you.](#)

Monday, August 19, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Penquis Valley High School

Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 5:30-7:30pm

Miller School, RSU 40

Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Maranacook High School

Wednesday, August 28, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Camden Hills Regional High School

Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Central Maine Community College

Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

UMaine Machias

Thursday, August 22, 2024, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Skowhegan High School

Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Bangor High School

Monday, August 26, 2024, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Lamoine Consolidated School

Thursday, September 12, 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Caribou Community School

**Assessment Team
Lunch 'n' Learn Office Hours**

Q&A



Stay Connected!

Find Us Online!



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