



Assessment June Office Hours

Presented by:
The Assessment Team

Today's Agenda

- ❖ General Updates
- ❖ Maine Through Year Assessment
- ❖ Maine Science Assessment
- ❖ WIDA ACCESS, WIDA Alternate ACCESS & WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten
- ❖ National Assessment of Educational Progress
- ❖ Multi-State Alternate Assessment
- ❖ Q&A

Meet the Team

Janette Kirk, Interim Director of Assessment

Krista Averill, Assessment Coordinator

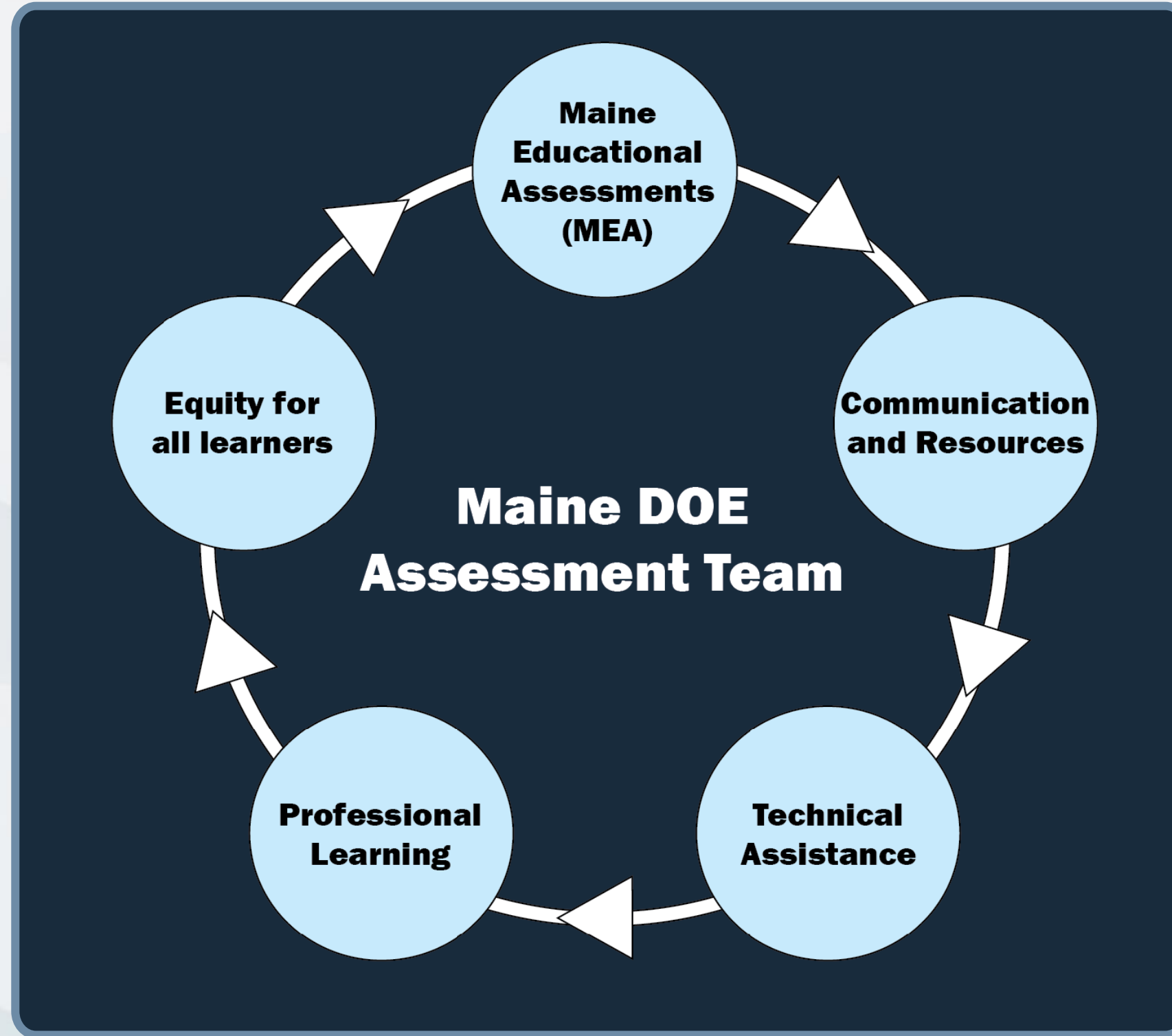
Mechelle Ganglfinger, Assessment Coordinator

Dr. Regina Lewis, NAEP State Coordinator

Daniella Crone, Office Specialist

Leah Jarvis, Business Analyst

Mission & Vision



The **Maine DOE Assessment Team** works to provide high quality technical assistance to Maine SAUs and schools around the Maine Education Assessments (MEA)

Helping Educators, Students, & Schools Thrive

Maine's State Science Assessment Development Survey

Maine DOE's current science assessment contract is approaching the end of its term, and a new request for proposals (RFP) is being developed for future statewide science assessment services.

Maine DOE is seeking educator feedback through the [State Science Assessment Development Survey](#) to help guide the next RFP.

- Survey completion time: **10–15 minutes**
- Deadline: **June 18, 2026**

Please share with educators and school leaders statewide.

Questions?

Contact Krista Averill, Maine DOE Science Assessment Coordinator, at krista.averill@maine.gov.

Maine educators are **involved in the assessment development process.**

☐

The assessment contains **simulation-based** questions, for example students test virtual prototypes and revise designs based on performance data.

☐

The assessment is **adaptive**, adjusting the difficulty of questions based on student responses.

☐

The assessment provides **rapid turnaround of preliminary student results data** (e.g., within two weeks).

☐

Student results data are available within an **interactive reporting dashboard.**

☐

Looking Ahead to Next School Year

Back to School Office Hours

Tuesday, August 4, at 12:00 PM

[Registration Link](#)

2026-27 School Year Office Hours

2nd Wednesday of each month, except for the 3rd Wednesday in November

12:00 PM

[Registration Link](#) (same as above)

The Assessment Team remains available over the summer months to aid in accessing and interpreting assessment score reports.

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a person reading a book, set against a soft, hazy sunset or sunrise sky. The person is positioned on the left side, looking down at the book. The overall tone is calm and educational.

Maine Through Year Assessment

Grades 3-8 and 2nd Year of High School

Important Dates:

Wrapping Up the Spring 2026 Administration

June 1-5: [SAU Data Cleanup Window](#)

June 5: Last day to update student supports & accommodations in Acacia and fix MAP Growth rostering errors

July 10-17: Reporting in Acacia will be unavailable starting at 2:00 PM ET on July 10 through July 17 at 3:00 PM ET as NWEA finishes data validation.

July 17: Student Score Data File and Individual Student Reports become available in Acacia.

July 31: Last day to run Operational Reports (other than the Student Score Data File) for the spring 2026 administration

A Quick Look at Available Reports for the Spring Administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment

Fall	Winter (Optional)	Spring
Interim MAP Growth-like / adapts Prioritizes on-grade content Produces RIT scores	Interim MAP Growth-like / adapts Prioritizes on-grade content Produces RIT scores	Interim MAP Growth-like / adapts Prioritizes on-grade content Summative Produces performance scores based on grade-level state standards Prioritizes on-grade content & adapts within one grade level above & below

RIT Scores - Interim

Access reports at start.mapnwea.org

Summary of Reports and Data Available

	MAP Growth Reports	Acacia Reports
RIT Achievement (Norms)	Comprehensive	Limited
RIT Growth (Norms)	Comprehensive	None
Maine Scale Score (Proficiency)	None	Comprehensive

Important Dates:

2026-27 School Year



Fall 2026 (Required):

Regular Administration Window: September 14 – October 16, 2026

Makeup Window: October 19 – October 23, 2026

Winter 2027 (Optional):

Regular Administration Window: January 4 – February 5, 2027

Makeup Window: February 8 – February 12, 2027

Spring 2027 (Required):

Regular Administration Window: April 12 – May 21, 2027 (*Closed April 19–23 for spring break.*)

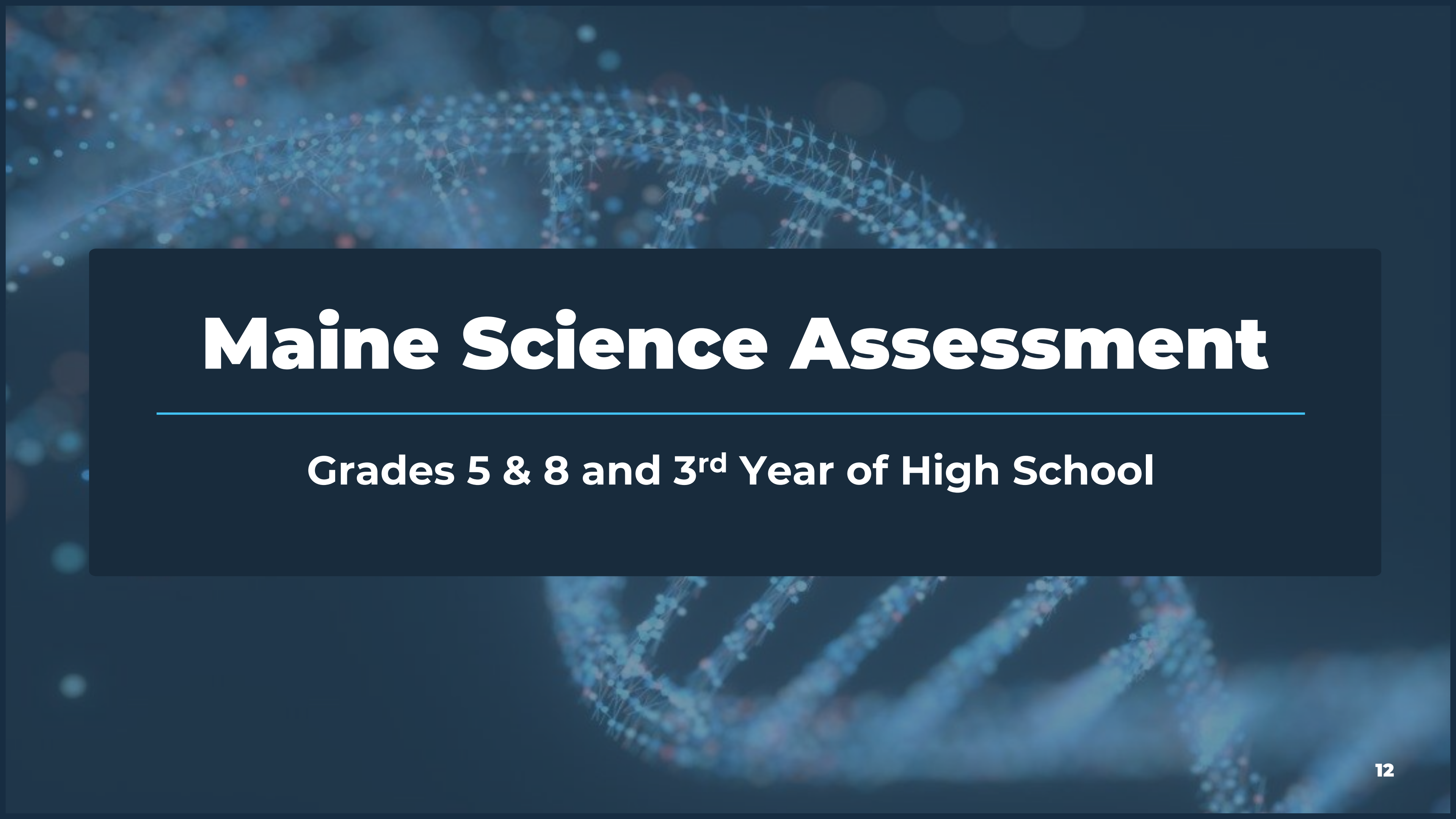
Makeup Window: May 24 – May 28, 2027

Maine Through Year: Whom to Contact

NWEA Maine Partner Support
(855) 430-1777
techsupport@nwea.org

Maine DOE Assessment Team:
Krista Averill
(207) 215-6528
Krista.Averill@maine.gov

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical issues with the Acacia platform• Technical issues with the MAP Growth platform, including rostering in MAP | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions related to assessment content, accessibility, scoring, and reporting• Policy-related questions• Any problems that NWEA Maine Partner Support is not able to resolve – If you have a case number, please provide. |
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Maine Science Assessment

Grades 5 & 8 and 3rd Year of High School

Spring 2026 Reports

Available Monday, August 24, in the [Kite Reporting Platform](#)

- [Scoring and Reporting Resources](#)

If you are a District Assessment Coordinator and need a Kite account, please email Krista Averill (Krista.Averill@maine.gov).

DACs can also email Krista for assistance in setting up accounts for others in their School Administrative Unit. Please provide:

- Name of staff
- Staff email
- Organization (for example, the name of the school that the staff should be able to access reports for)

Look forward to a Maine Science Assessment reports walkthrough at our Back to School Office Hours in August!

Important Dates:

2026-27 School Year



High School

Regular Administration Window: April 1 – April 13, 2027

Makeup Window: April 14 – April 16, 2027

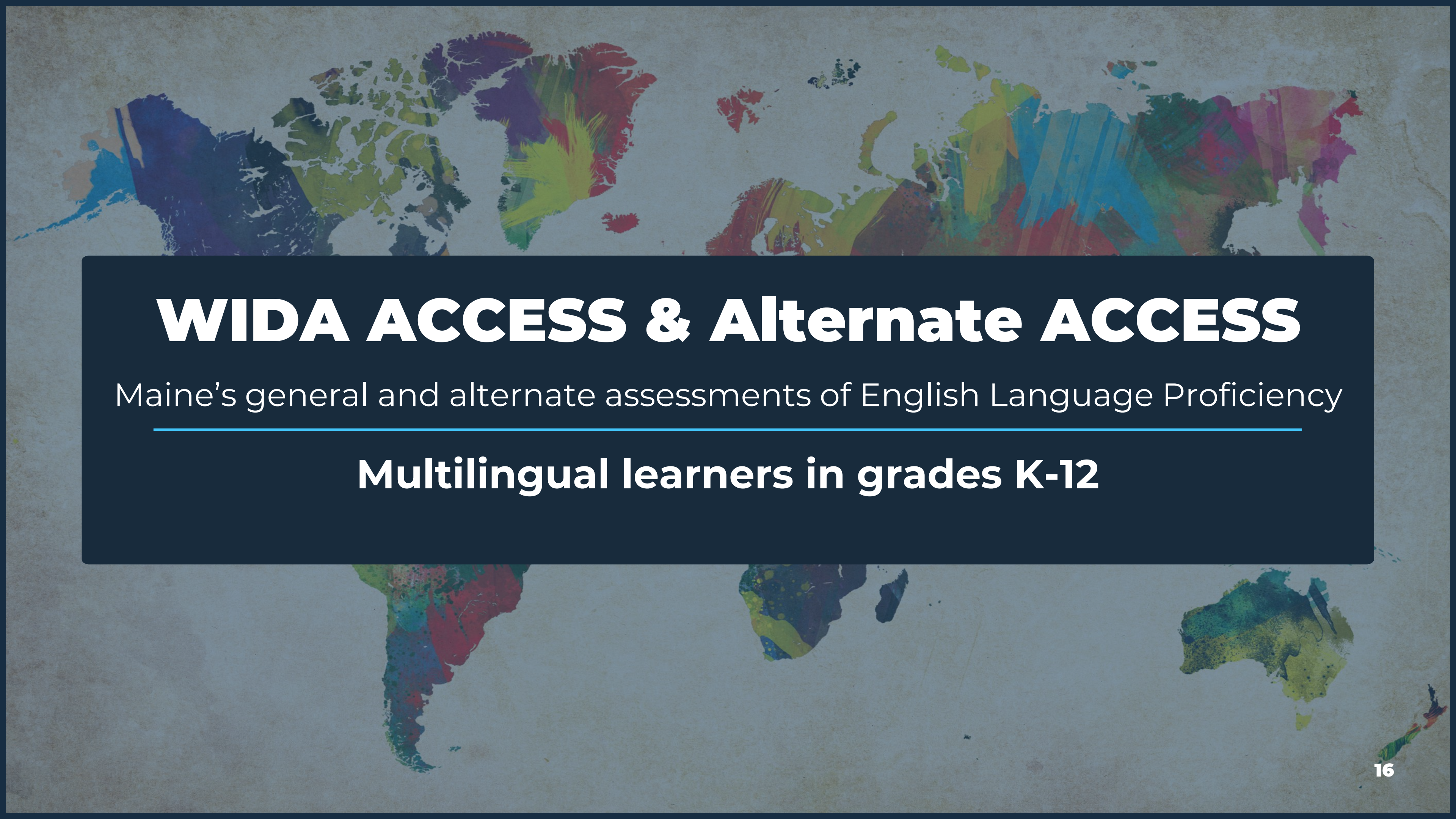
Grades 5 & 8

Regular Administration Window: May 10 – May 19, 2027

Makeup Window: May 20 – May 21, 2027

Maine Science: Whom to Contact

Kite Service Desk (855) 277-9752 Kite-support@ku.edu	Maine DOE Assessment Team: Krista Averill (207) 215-6528 Krista.Averill@maine.gov
• Accessing reports • DACs creating user accounts for other staff within their SAU	• Questions related to assessment content, accessibility, scoring, and reporting • Policy-related questions • Help with the creation of accounts in Kite (requires DAC approval)



WIDA ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS

Maine's general and alternate assessments of English Language Proficiency

Multilingual learners in grades K-12



UPDATE: Because of revisions to WIDA ACCESS to reflect the WIDA ELD Standards Framework, 2020 Edition, **treat 2025–2026 WIDA ACCESS scale scores as a new baseline to measure growth against.**

Therefore, you cannot compare this year's scale scores to previous years.

July 2026: WIDA ACCESS Standard Setting

ACCESS Standard Setting 2026

What is standard setting?

Anytime an organization significantly revises an assessment, like we're doing with ACCESS, they must conduct a standard setting study. Standard setting is when a group of select, trained educators determine proficiency level scores and set cut scores for an assessment. Cut scores describe the level of student performance needed to meet the expectations of each proficiency level. For example, what scale score does a student need to receive a proficiency level of 2 or 3 at their grade level? Cut scores also help states determine the appropriate level a student must achieve on ACCESS to be considered proficient in English.

Standard setting must be conducted after the first annual administration of a revised assessment.

Because of standard setting, you'll need to approach your ACCESS score reports in 2026 with additional attention. As you prepare to receive ACCESS score reports in 2026, know that

- You will receive score reports on your regular reporting timeline.
- You can use 2025–2026 ACCESS scores to make decisions about students for the 2026–2027 school year, either to exit students or decide on classroom placement.
- You should treat 2025–2026 ACCESS scale scores as a new baseline to measure future growth against (you can't compare scale scores from previous years).
- You should use 2025–2026 ACCESS proficiency level scores with caution prior to the ACCESS Standard Setting 2026 event as they will reflect the old proficiency level cut scores. (Learn more

General Assessment of English Language Proficiency

ACCESS

What's new is ACCESS!!!!!!!

Assistive Technology (AT)

The Assistive Technology (AT) accommodation allows students with hearing, visual, cognitive, or physical disabilities to use specific external devices or third-party software to access and interact with test content.

Manual Control of Item Audio (MC)

Starting in 2026–2027, the accommodation Manual Control of Item Audio (MC) will only be applicable to WIDA ACCESS Paper and WIDA Screener Paper.

Speech-To-Text (STT)

Speech-to-text is third-party software that uses voice recognition to convert speech into written text in applications and text boxes.

Changes to WIDA ACCESS Online and WIDA Screener Online to Meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

- Modified use of color on items to provide better contrast and to avoid using color alone to convey meaning.
- Alternative text has been added to more than 10,000 images to support the future implementation of the Screen Reader (SNR) accommodation.
- Replaced Listening and Reading items that use drag-and-drop response methods. These item types are not accessible to students who rely on various types of assistive technologies to access assessment content.
- Several coding changes to ensure that in the future, screen readers will navigate test content correctly.
- Additionally, the Speaking domain has a new user interface for the microphone check and for the recording buttons.

ACCESS 2026

Statewide Data

Preliminary

Fast Facts

- Roughly 7719 students participated in the ACCESS in 2026.
- The most common native languages of participants were identified as Arabic, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish, and non-reported.
- Approximately 17.8% of these multilingual learners also had a reported primary disability category. This represents 1377 students.

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Fast Facts

- 260 students or 19% of students with a disability had a primary IDEA category of Speech Language Impairment (**SLI**).
- 340 students or 25% of students with a disability had a primary IDEA category of Specific Learning Disability (**SLD**).
- The other most commonly occurring primary disabilities category are Other Health Impairment (**OHI**) and Autism.

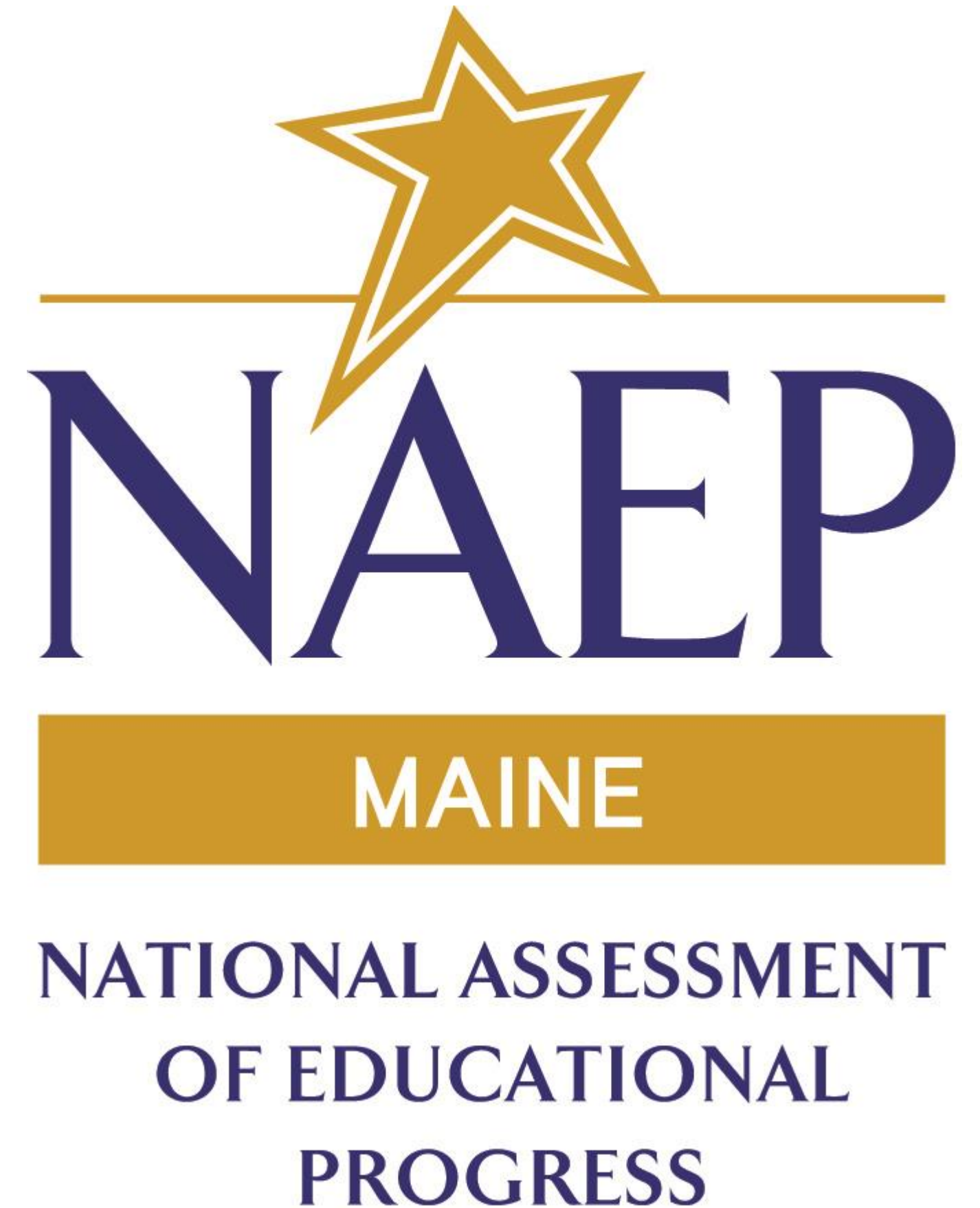
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Additional Data

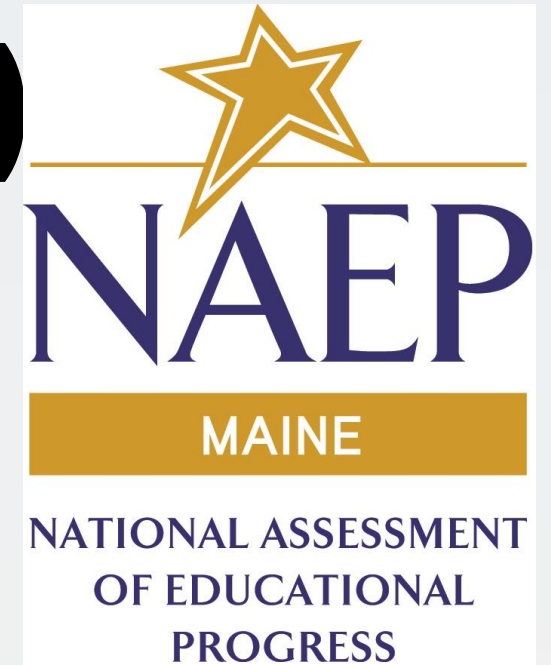
- 9.2% of MLs participating in ACCESS in 2026 are eligible for exit with overall composite scores of 4.5 and higher.
- 47% of MLs participating in ACCESS 2026 tested at a proficiency level of 5 or above in the Listening domain.
- 23% of MLs participating in ACCESS 2026 tested at a proficiency level of 5 or above in the Reading domain.
- 2.9% of MLs participating in ACCESS 2026 tested at a proficiency level of 5 or above in the Speaking domain, and 0.1%²⁴ in the Writing domain.

National and International Assessments

**NAEP:
January 26 – March 20, 2026**

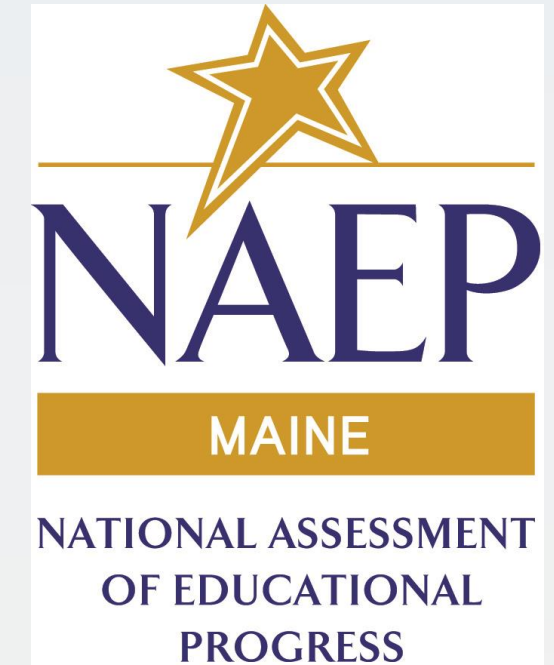


NAEP 2025 Long-Term Trend (LTT) Public Release of Results



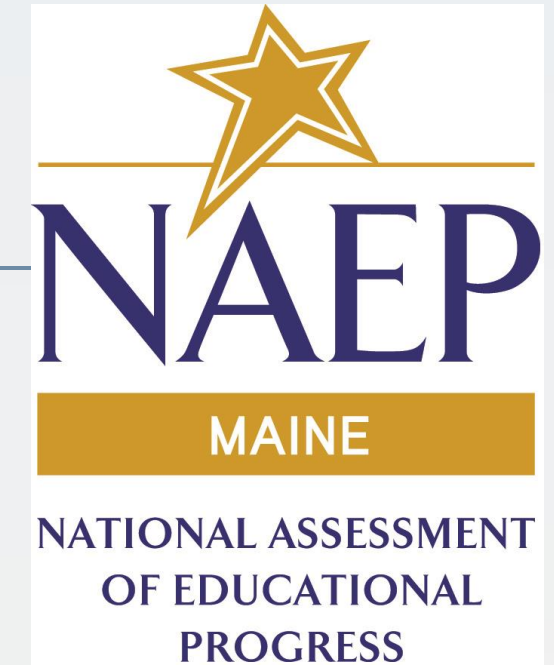
- LTT results scheduled to be released on June 10, 2026, at 12:01 AM ET at www.nationsreportcard.gov
- National level results will provide additional information following declines on the 2022 and 2023 NAEP LTT assessments.
- Results are reported only at the national level and cannot be compared to the Nation's Report Card.
- LTT provides an age-based, national snapshot on student learning in math and reading.
- LTT was last released in 2022 for 9-year-olds and 2023 for 13-year-olds.

NAEP 2027



- No Maine schools have been selected for participation in this small preparatory study for the larger administration of NAEP 2028 which may include a small number of MacOS devices.
- NAEP plans to include MacOS and iOS devices for the administration of NAEP 2028.
- Other updates will be provided as the information becomes available.

NAEP Resources



Experience Elements of NAEP

- [NAEP Assessment Tutorials](#)
- [Take NAEP Now Pop Quiz](#)
- [NAEP Survey Questionnaires](#)

For more information:

Regina Lewis, Ph.D.

(207) 530-1355

Regina.Lewis@maine.gov

New NAEP 2026

Frameworks:

- [NAEP 2026 Reading Framework](#)
- [NAEP 2026 Mathematics Framework](#)

For information on Student Performance:

- [NAEP Data Explorer](#)
- [NAEP Questions Tool](#)
- [NAEP Item Maps](#)

Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA)

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

Grades 3-8 and 3rd Year of High School

2056-2026 Important Dates - MSAA

7/13/26 - 9/18/26 – Online reporting window for 2026 MSAA and MSAA Science

Beginning on page 39, the MSAA Online Assessment System User Guide for Test Coordinators (TCs) provides instructions on how to access and download state, district, and school report files for the organizations with which you are associated during the online reporting window.

Only TCs have permission to view and download reports.

The Reports tab will not be activated until the online reporting window opens on July 13th.

MSAA Online Assessment System User Guide for Test Coordinators

**Test Administration Window
March 9–April 24, 2026**

**ELA, Mathematics & Science Online Reporting Window
July 13–September 18, 2026**



Multi-State Alternate Assessment: Whom to Contact

MSAA Service Desk (866) 834-8879 MSAAServiceCenter@cognia.org Live Chat	Maine DOE Assessment Team: Mechelle Ganglfinger (207) 242-4244 Mechelle.Ganglfinger@maine.gov
• Issues with the platform • Questions around account permissions/creation • Mandatory training modules and quiz • Help logging in	• 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 <i>Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy.</i> • Any problems that MSAA Service Desk is unable to answer



Questions?

Thank You!



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