

Maine DOE Assessment Team

Monthly Update, November 2024

Updated Resources for SY2024-2025

- **Monthly office hours with the Assessment Team**
2nd Wednesday of every month, 12-1pm. Registration link here: [Office Hours](#)
- **Assessment technical assistance available to Maine SAUs/schools upon request**
The request form is linked here: [SAU Request for Assessment Technical Assistance](#)
- **Updated assessment guidance documents**
 1. Maine Comprehensive Assessment System Guidelines 2024-2025 linked here: [MECAS Guidelines](#)
 2. Assessment Technical Assistance Plan 2024 -2025 linked here: [Technical Assistance](#)
 3. Assessment Security Handbook 2024-2025 and resources linked here: [Assessment Security](#)
 4. SY2024-2025 Assessment Calendar can be found below and is also linked here: [Maine Assessment Calendar | Department of Education](#)

Important General Reminders

- ✓ **Keep student enrollment data up to date!** Enrollment data in Synergy is utilized to populate the NEO, assessment reports, add students to the assessment platforms, etc.
- ✓ **Keep staff data up to date in NEO** – Teams and offices across the Maine DOE utilize the SAU contact information in NEO when sending out targeted information about upcoming events and trainings.
- ✓ **Do you have challenges with Synergy, NEO, or just have a data-related question? The MEDMS Helpdesk is here to help: medms.helpdesk@maine.gov or (207) 624-6896**
Hours:
Mon - Wed: 8am - 4pm
Thursday: 8am - Noon
Friday: 8am - 4pm

NWEA Maine Through Year Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Krista Averill**
Contact Krista at Krista.Averill@maine.gov or 207-215-6528.

Wrapping Up the Fall Administration

November 11: Final day to download Fall 2024 Operational Reports in Acacia (excluding the Student Score Data File)

December 3: Fall 2024 Student Score Data File (SSDF) csv becomes available in Operational Reports

Preparing for the Optional Winter Administration

December 16: Acacia platform opens for pre-administration activities, such as assigning supports and accommodations

January 6 – February 14: Administration window

Professional Learning Opportunities

NWEA Professional Learning Opportunities

Maine DOE and NWEA have developed several professional learning (PL) opportunities for the 2024-25 school year. Below are the offerings for this fall and winter. Visit the [NWEA PL registration website](#) for more information.

*Student-Centered Assessment Literacy** ([Registration Link](#))

- Session 1: What is assessment literacy? What helps make assessment processes and practices matter to students?
 - November 12, 3:00-4:30 PM
 - January 16, 2025, 3:00-4:30 PM
- Session 2: Which structures and strategies support a culture of learning? How do you use classroom assessment tools to build assessment literacy?
 - November 14, 3:00-4:30 PM
 - January 30, 2025, 3:00-4:30 PM

*Applying Classroom Assessment Standards** ([Registration Link](#))

- Session 1: What existing frameworks can guide teachers' classroom assessment practices and inform decisions?
 - January 14, 2025, 3:00-4:30 PM
- Session 2: What are the main components of quality assessment practices?
 - February 10, 2025, 3:00-4:30 PM

Using Achievement Level Descriptors to Ensure Classroom Rigor ([Registration Link](#))

- February 27, 2025, 3:00-4:30 PM

*Attendance at session 1 is not necessary for attendance at session 2.

Maine Science Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Krista Averill**

Contact Krista at Krista.Averill@maine.gov or 207-215-6528.

Student Score Reports

Spring 2024 SAU, school, and student reports became available on October 8th in the [Kite Reporting Platform](#).

If you are the identified District Assessment Coordinator in NEO and need an account created for you, please reach out to Krista Averill at Krista.Averill@maine.gov.

If you are an administrator or educator seeking access to your students' scores, please reach out to your District Assessment Coordinator. The DAC may either create an account for you in the Kite Reporting Platform or provide you with the requested score information.

If you already have an account for the Kite platform but are struggling to login or access reports, please contact the Kite Service Desk at Kite-support@ku.edu or (855) 277-9752.

Practice Tests and Released Items

Practice tests are online set of questions meant to familiarize students with the assessment platform, its tools, and the types of questions they may encounter when they take the Maine Science Assessment.

- [Practice Test and Tutorial Codes](#)
- Login at adamexam.com/tester

Released items are test questions that are no longer in use and have been made available to the public.

- The "For Student" copy resembles a test booklet.
- The "For Teachers" version contains the answer key, standards alignment, and rubrics for constructed response questions.

Released items are located on the [Maine Science Assessment webpage](#), under the *Content* drop-down menu.

Looking Ahead to Spring 2025

Administration Schedule:

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

Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) and MSAA Science

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Mechelle Ganglfinger**

[Contact Mechelle](#) or 207-242-4244

Helpful Website Links

[Participation Guidance for IEP Teams](#) This document is intended to outline steps to guide Individualized Education Program (IEP) Teams to determine whether an alternate assessment is the most appropriate assessment for an individual student.

[SY2024-2025 Alternate Assessment Timeline](#): This document includes important dates to assist you in staying on track as the year progresses.

[Multi-State Alternate Assessment \(MSAA\) | Department of Education](#): The Maine DOE MSAA webpage includes information related to preparing for the assessment, assessment training and security, technical assistance, and assessment reports.

[1% and Maine's Alternate Assessments Based on Alternate Academic Achievement Standards \(AA-AAAS\)](#): The Maine DOE 1% webpage holds a wealth of information related to the alternate assessment with links to a variety of resources and topics related to Maine's alternate assessment.

Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

MSAA Training for SPPS Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators (TC's):

Thursday, November 7, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: TCs will develop understanding of the various components of the MSAA and MSAA Science, as well as the responsibilities of the Coordinator before, during and after assessment.

[Registration Link: MSAA Training for SPPS Alternate Assessment TCs](#)

MSAA Training for SPPS Alternate Assessment Administrators TAs

Thursday, November 14, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: TAs will develop understanding of the various components of the MSAA and MSAA Science. TAs will learn the responsibilities of the TA before, during and after assessment. Participants' questions related to administrative tasks and platform features will be addressed.

[Registration Link: MSAA Training for SPPS Alternate Assessment Administrators \(TAs\)](#)

MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators (TCs)

Monday, November 18, 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: TCs will develop understanding of the various components of the MSAA and MSAA Science and will gain an understanding of the responsibilities of the Coordinator before, during and after assessment.

[Registration Link: MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment TCs](#)

MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Test Administrators (TAs)

Monday, January 13, 2025, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Presentation Description: TAs will develop understanding of the various components of the MSAA and MSAA Science. TAs will learn the responsibilities of the TA before, during and after assessment. Participants' questions related to administrative tasks and platform features will be addressed.

[Registration Link: MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment TAs](#)

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Dr. Regina Lewis**

[Contact Regina](#)

NAEP 2024 Reporting

The NAEP 2024 results are tentatively scheduled to be released in early 2025. The comparison study of the administration of NAEP 2024 on Chromebooks with the administration of the assessment on Microsoft Surface Pro tablets used in the previous computer-based administrations of NAEP is almost complete. Later this month the National Assessment Governing Board and the National Center for Education Statistics will announce the plans for the upcoming release of the 2024 Mathematics and Reading Assessments.

If you have any questions about the NAEP 2024 administration or the upcoming release of the results, please contact Dr. Regina Lewis at regina.lewis@maine.gov or 207-530-1355.

Why is the National Center of Education Statistics modernizing NAEP?

NCES is currently implementing modernizations that allow for more flexible and authentic assessment experiences. The goal is to have a flexible model for assessing students online, in any environment, and on familiar devices. Such advancements will ultimately allow NCES to assess students in a variety of settings or locations, including remotely as needed.

Notable changes for future NAEP administrations:

- The transition to school devices will begin with the 2026 administration of the NAEP assessments. Schools with Windows and/or Chrome based devices will administer the NAEP in a similar manner as other state assessments.
- The NAEP 2026 Mathematics and Reading assessments have updated frameworks and new items.
- The NAEP 2028 Science assessment will be based on the updated NAEP 2028 Science Framework.

International Assessments

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Dr. Regina Lewis**

[Contact Regina](#)

What's up and coming with the International Assessments:

Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025

What will schools and students be asked to do in PISA?

PISA 2025 has three primary components: (1) a computer-based student assessment, (2) a computer-based student questionnaire, and (3) an online school questionnaire. [Try the PISA assessment](#) and find out why reading, science and mathematics matters!

For additional questions, please contact Regina Lewis at regina.lewis@maine.gov

[ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS](#)

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Mechelle Ganglfinger**

[Contact Mechelle](#) or 207-242-4244

Upcoming WIDA Assessment Webinars

- **ACCESS Technology Support and Online Preparedness** Tuesday, November 5 at 2:00pm-3:00pm
 - **Kindergarten ACCESS for New Test Administrators** Tuesday, November 12 at 2:00pm-3:00pm
 - **Managing Student Information for ACCESS Testing** Thursday, November 14 at 2:00pm-2300pm
 - **WIDA Alternate ACCESS for New Test Administrators** Tuesday, November 19 at 2:00pm-3:00pm
- Learn more and add these upcoming webinars to your calendar on the [Webinars](#) page (login required).

Important Dates

11/21/24 - 2/28/25	WIDA AMS Test Setup Available for Registrations
12/12/24 - 12/13/24	Districts Receive Test Materials
12/12/24 - 2/21/25	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in WIDA AMS
1/6/25 - 2/28/25	Test Window
3/11/25	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC -Postmark date

Maine DOE Upcoming Webinar

- **Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the ACCESS Assessment:** Monday, December 2, 2024, 3-4pm

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.

[Registration Link: Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the ACCESS Assessment](#)