



Administration windows for the ACCESS, Alternate ACCESS, and NAEP are right around the corner in January, with an optional winter administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment taking place at the same time.

Does your SAU have specific technical assistance needs around these assessments? If so, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of the team or submit a request here:

[SAU Request for Assessment Technical Assistance](#)

[Join us for monthly office hours with the Assessment Team](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, 12-1pm

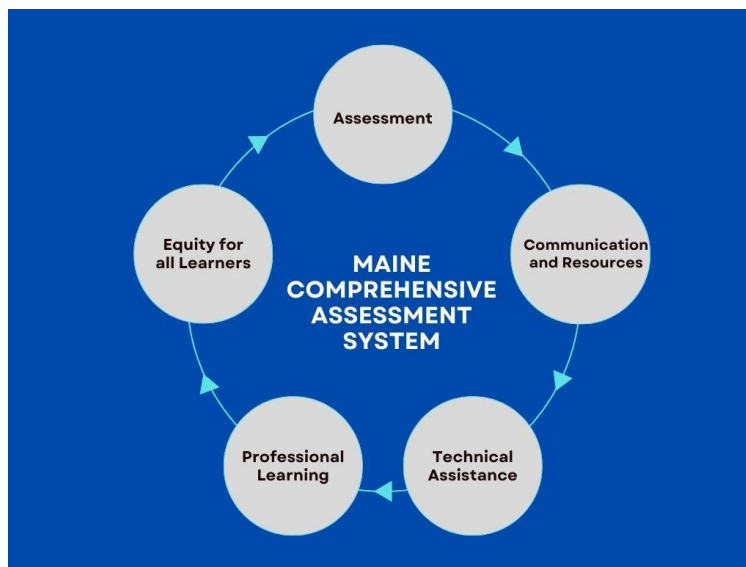
[Register for office hours](#)

### 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](mailto:medms.helpdesk@maine.gov) or (207) 624-6896**  
Hours:  
Mon - Wed: 8am - 4pm  
Thursday: 8am - Noon  
Friday: 8am - 4pm

## Current & Upcoming Maine Educational Assessments SY 23-24

Assessment	Dates	Content Area	Participants	
ACCESS FOR ELLS (general)	1/8/24 – 3/1/24	English language proficiency	Multilingual learners in grades K-12	
ALTERNATE ACCESS FOR ELLS (alternate)			Multilingual learners in grades K-12 with the most significant cognitive disabilities	
Maine Through Year Assessment (general)	Winter (optional): 1/2/24 – 2/16/24	Reading and mathematics	Students in grades 3-8 and 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of high school	
	Spring: 4/22/24 – 5/31/24			
Multi-State Alternate Assessment - MSAA (alternate)		3/11/24 – 4/26/24	R/LA and mathematics	Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3-8 and 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of HS
MSAA Science (alternate)			Science	Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades 5, 8 and 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of HS
Maine Science (general)		5/13/24 - 5/24/24	Science	Students in grades 5, 8 and 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of HS
National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)		1/29/24 – 3/8/24	Reading, mathematics and Science ( <b>grade 8 only</b> )	Students in selected schools in grades 4, 8 & 12



## NWEA Maine Through Year Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Krista Averill**

Contact Krista at [Krista.Averill@maine.gov](mailto:Krista.Averill@maine.gov) or 207-215-6528.

### New Resource! [Structure of the Maine Through Year Assessment Video](#)

**The Assessment Team has created a 5-minute [Structure of the Maine Through Year Assessment](#) video.** This introductory video answers the following questions:

- What are the similarities and differences between the fall, winter, and spring administrations of the Maine Through Year Assessment?
- Which portions are diagnostic, which are summative, and what does that mean?
- How do the diagnostic and summative portions compare to the NWEA MAP Growth assessment?
- How are summative questions different from diagnostic questions?
- How are RIT scores and Maine-specific scale scores determined for the Maine Through Year Assessment, and how are they different?

Please note that pre-requisite knowledge for this video includes basic familiarity with the MAP Growth assessment and RIT scores. If you plan to share this video resource with others who are not familiar with MAP Growth, please consider first sharing this additional resource from NWEA: [A Family Guide to MAP Growth](#).

### Score Reports

#### Sharing Spring and Fall 2023 Reports with Families

Sharing the Individual Student Reports (ISRs) from Spring 2023 with families is a requirement per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These ISRs can be downloaded from the Acacia platform in *Student Scores*. SAUs may supplement the ISRs with other reports and information, such as MAP Growth reports and district-level assessments, as well as with the newly developed Supplementary Page for Families. *See the next section for more information on this resource.*

For the fall administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment, there is no requirement to share a specific report with families. SAUs who have chosen to use an additional, different fall interim assessment have the option to share the results of that local assessment with families.

Some options for sharing student results data from the fall administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment with families include using the Dynamic Student Report available in Acacia and the Family Report from the MAP Growth platform. The Family Report, and other MAP Growth reports, will be available only for those students who were successfully rostered in the MAP Growth platform by their attending SAU by November 9, 2023.

Please note that the ISRs available in Acacia are for the spring assessment administration only. The ISRs report the Maine-specific scale score, which is generated only by the summative portion of the spring administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment. For more information on the structure of the Maine Through Year Assessment, please watch this [video](#).

## **Individual Student Reports: Supplementary Page for Families**

Individual Student Report (ISR) design is intended to an iterative process in which feedback is received from the field and stakeholders, and recommended and desired changes to the ISR are presented to the assessment vendor to determine the viability of those changes. The Assessment Team had the privilege of working with a group of education professionals from across the State of Maine to re-envision the ISR for future spring administrations. Maine DOE continues to work with our assessment vendor, NWEA, to determine what changes to the ISR are viable for spring 2024 and what improvements we can work towards for spring 2025.

Part of this work has included the development of a supplementary page for families, which can accompany both the current Spring 2023 ISR as well as the anticipated, new ISR for spring 2024. This supplementary page is currently available for all grades on the [Maine Through Year Assessment website](#), under the *Individual Student Report (ISR) Template Translations* drop-down menu. Translations into Maine's top languages are coming soon.

## **MAP Growth Reports**

MAP Growth reports became available for students who were successfully enrolled in the MAP Growth platform by their SAU by November 9.

NWEA is currently developing resources to provide further clarification on the rostering process that SAUs must complete in the MAP Growth platform in order to receive Maine Through Year Assessment RIT score data integrated into MAP Growth reports. The MAP Growth product was developed to be a district rather than state assessment solution, and as a result, Maine DOE has no access to rosters or reports in the MAP Growth platform. Because Maine DOE Assessment Team members are unable to access this information in the MAP Growth platform, SAUs must reach out to NWEA Partner Support at (855) 430-1777 or [techsupport@nwea.org](mailto:techsupport@nwea.org) to resolve any problems in rostering their students in the MAP Growth platform for the winter and spring administrations.

Please note that MAP Growth roster uploads for the fall 2023 administration were final as of November 9 and cannot be updated at this time.

The Maine DOE Assessment and Data Teams will continue to be responsible for rostering in the Acacia platform.

## **Fall 2023 Student Score Data File (SSDF)**

The Fall 2023 Student Score Data File (SSDF) is a csv file that will be available to District Assessment Coordinators for download from Operational Reports in Acacia on December 6. The original delivery date for this file was delayed due to the extension of the fall assessment administration window.

## **Questions & Answers: Scoring and Reporting**

Questions from the field regarding scoring and reporting for the Maine Through Year Assessment have been compiled into the [Scoring and Reporting Q&A document](#). This document can also be found on the [Maine Through Year Assessment webpage](#).

## Optional Winter 2024 Administration

The winter administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment is optional. The window is from January 2 – February 16, 2024. The Acacia platform will open to SAUs for pre-administration activities, such as assigning accommodations and creating student groups, on December 11.

### Daily Change Files

As with the spring 2023 and fall 2023 administrations, daily roster change files will be loaded manually by an Assessment Team member into the Acacia platform each day. From Monday to Friday, it may take up to 36 hours to see rostering changes in Synergy reflected in the Acacia platform. If changes are made to Synergy after 8:00 PM on Friday, they will not appear in Acacia until Tuesday.

### Removing Students from Acacia

If you need to remove students from Acacia during the winter pre-administration window, for example due to the student being an alternate assessment participant, please email [Krista.Averill@maine.gov](mailto:Krista.Averill@maine.gov) and cc: [Kalua.Wilson@maine.gov](mailto:Kalua.Wilson@maine.gov). Removal of students from the Acacia platform is a manual process that cannot be completed via the daily roster change file.

### Training Slides

Although there will not be a separate Maine Through Year Assessment Coordinator training for the winter administration, the training slides will be updated and posted on the [NWEA Maine Connection page](#) and the [Maine Through Year Assessment page](#) in mid-December.

## Professional Learning Opportunities

### Understanding Scores from the Maine Through Year Assessment

During this virtual workshop, participants will learn about the characteristics and purposes of the two score types produced by the Maine Through Year Assessment. Participants will interact with student RIT score and Maine-specific scale score data to develop a deeper understanding of the purpose and value of, as well as the similarities and differences between, these two measures of student performance.

The first two iterations of the workshop are being held on:

- January 11, 3:30-5:00 PM: [Registration link](#)
- February 8, 3:30-5:00 PM: [Registration link](#)

It is recommended that all workshop participants watch the [Structure of the Maine Through Year Assessment video](#) prior to attending the workshop. The video provides essential pre-requisite knowledge needed to engage fully in interacting with RIT and Maine-specific scale score data during the workshop.

### Request an NWEA Virtual Professional Learning Session for Your School or SAU

NWEA is offering SAUs and schools the opportunity to request virtual professional learning sessions for specific dates and times that best meet their needs.

The following professional learning sessions are being offered:

- Accessing Reports: Teachers
- Accessing Reports: Administrators

- Using Multiple Data Sources to Inform Instruction
- Using Achievement Level Descriptors to Ensure Rigor
- Purpose & Benefits of the Through Year Assessment
- Getting Your Teachers Ready for the Through Year Assessment
- Getting Your Students Ready for the Through Year Assessment

Please complete [this form](#) to request a session.

## Maine Science Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: Krista Averill

Contact Krista at [Krista.Averill@maine.gov](mailto:Krista.Averill@maine.gov) or 207-215-6528.

### Spring 2023 Student Score Reports

The Maine Department of Education is excited to announce that we have partnered with the Achievement and Assessment Institute and our assessment vendor, New Meridian, in the development of new reports for the Maine Science Assessment.

**On Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> District Assessment Coordinators (as identified in NEO) received access to the Kite Educator Portal via email.** The email came from [kite-support@ku.edu](mailto:kite-support@ku.edu). Please check your spam or junk folders if you did not receive an email to your inbox. If you need another email sent, please reach out to the Kite Service Desk.

### Getting Help Accessing Spring 2023 Maine Science Assessment Reports

The Kite Service Desk provides support through phone calls, email, and live chat in Kite.

Resource	Location
Kite Service Desk Phone Number	855-277-9752
Kite Service Desk Email Address	<a href="mailto:kite-support@ku.edu">Kite-support@ku.edu</a>
Kite Live Chat in the Kite Educator Portal	<a href="https://educator-testlet.kiteaai.org/">https://educator-testlet.kiteaai.org/</a>
Hours	8:00 am to 6:00 pm M-F Eastern Time Zone

### Reporting Platform and Score Interpretation Guides

- The [Reporting Platform User Guide](#) provides directions for adding, editing, and removing District Users and Building Users in the Kite platform as well as how to access the various reports within the platform.
- The [Score Interpretation Guide](#) provides information on scaled scores, achievement levels, subdiscipline reporting, overview of reports (ISR, school summary, SAU summary, and roster report), and directions for importing and filtering of CSV roster files.

Both guides are available on the [Maine Science Zendesk page](#).

## Additional Resources

To access the practice tests, please use the browser-based ADAM, <https://adamexam.com/tester/>, and enter the test codes found [here](#).

Additional Maine Science Assessment resources, including released items and achievement level descriptors, can be found on Maine DOE's [Maine Science Assessment](#) webpage.

### Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) and MSAA Science

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Jodi Bossio-Smith**

[Contact Jodi](#)

The MSAA (ELA & math) and MSAA Science are Maine's alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards, designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who have been found eligible by the IEP Team utilizing state guidance resources. To learn more about these assessments including eligibility and federal requirements, please visit the [Maine DOE 1% Resource Page](#).

### National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)

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

[Contact Regina](#)

Administration window – January 29, 2024 through March 8, 2024.

As the main point of contact, NAEP School Coordinators should be conducting steps to prepare for the upcoming administration of the assessment. School Coordinators and Onsite Technology Coordinators should be registered in the NAEP Assessment Management System. More than 25% of the Maine Schools selected for NAEP have either not designated a school coordinator or have a school coordinator that is not registered in the NAEP Assessment Management System. Principals can designate a school coordinator using this [link to a Microsoft Form](#).

#### ***Upcoming activities for School Coordinators include:***

- ***Scheduling a Zoom meeting*** with the NAEP Assessment Coordinator that leads the team scheduled to administer the assessment in the school.
- ***Reviewing the list of students selected for NAEP.*** The list of selected students is scheduled to become available on December 4, 2023. When this list becomes available, please review the list and assign assessment accommodations as indicated in the students' IEPs and/or 504 plans. The AMS has some helpful guidance.
- ***Notifying families of the students.*** Parent/guardian notification letters are available in English and Spanish within the NAEP Assessment Management System. These letters are also available in the top

ten languages spoken by the families of Maine's students. The translations for the Parent Notification letters are located on the bottom of the [National and International Assessment page](#) of the Maine DOE Assessment Team Resources. *This is a new location.* The families of students selected for NAEP should be notified at least one week in advance. You may also elect to notify the parents of all students in the selected grade that their students may be selected to participate in the assessment.

- ***Plan to be onsite and available*** before as well as during the administration of the assessment on the day of the assessment.

***To prepare for the assessment's technology requirements, each On-site Technology Coordinator should:***

- ***Work with school or district technology staff*** as necessary to add the email domain westatstudies.com to the safe senders list;
- ***Complete or assist with safelisting URLs.*** A complete list is located in the NAEP Assessment Management System.
- ***Schedule the Zoom meeting with the NAEP Assessment Coordinator*** assigned to your school.
- ***Plan to be onsite and available*** before as well as during the administration of the assessment on the day of the assessment.

***Grade 12 Schools Only:***

- ***High School Transcript Study (HSTS) Coordinators*** should be registered in the NAEP Assessment Management System.
- ***High School Transcript Study tasks are available in the AMS*** for submission of course catalogs and completion of the transcript information survey.

***\*\*Please reach out to the members of your school and/or SAU that are designated to assist with the preparation for NAEP to verify that they have received an invitation to register for the NAEP AMS from [DoNotReply-NAEP@westatstudies.com](mailto:DoNotReply-NAEP@westatstudies.com).***

***\*\*Those that have already registered may access the AMS by returning to <https://ams.westatstudies.com/>***

- ***It is important that [DoNotReply-NAEP@westatstudies.com](mailto:DoNotReply-NAEP@westatstudies.com) is on the safelist or whitelist for the district/school.***
- ***Please have all staff that will be accessing the NAEP AMS check their junk mail/spam if the invitation to register has not been received.***
- ***The link in the invitation is time sensitive.***
- ***If the email invitation cannot be located, please reach out to Regina Lewis at [regina.lewis@maine.gov](mailto:regina.lewis@maine.gov) or (207) 530-1355.***

If you are a District Assessment Coordinator and you would like to assist with and/or monitor NAEP 2024 activities, please request access by emailing [regina.lewis@maine.gov](mailto:regina.lewis@maine.gov).

***December NAEP Nugget:***

Passwords for the NAEP Assessment Management System need to be reset frequently. If you are unable to access your account, please try the password recovery link on the login page.



## International Assessments

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

[Contact Regina](#)

*What's up and coming with the International Assessments:*

### **2024 Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS 2024)**

TALIS is a survey about teachers, teaching, and learning environments. TALIS offers teachers and principals the opportunity to provide their perspectives on education in the United States. While TALIS 2024 will be conducted in spring 2024, no schools in Maine are participating. Learn more about TALIS on the [National Center for Educational Statistics website for TALIS](#).

## ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Jodi Bossio-Smith**

[Contact Jodi](#)

Please confirm that each student identified as a multilingual learner has an ML Start Date in Synergy state enrollment. This data is used to create ACCESS assessment rosters in WIDA AMS, as well as to generate the initial materials order, including paper booklets, coordinator manuals, and test administration scripts.

### Important ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS 23-24 Dates

<b>11/28/23-3/1/24</b>	WIDA AMS Test Setup Available for Registrations
<b>12/14/23</b>	Districts Receive Test Materials
<b>12/14/23-2/23/24</b>	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in WIDA AMS
<b>1/8/24-3/1/24</b>	Test Window
<b>3/12/24</b>	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC
<b>4/30/24</b>	ACCESS Reports and Data Files Available – Online in WIDA AMS
<b>5/16/24</b>	ACCESS Reports Available in District – Printed
<b>9/13/24</b>	WIDA Alternate ACCESS Reports and Data Files Available – Online in WIDA AMS
<b>10/2/24</b>	WIDA Alternate ACCESS Reports Available in District - Printed