



## ASSESSMENT

# Assessment Team Monthly Update

## February 2024

Administration windows for the ACCESS, Alternate ACCESS, and NAEP continue in February, 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 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:

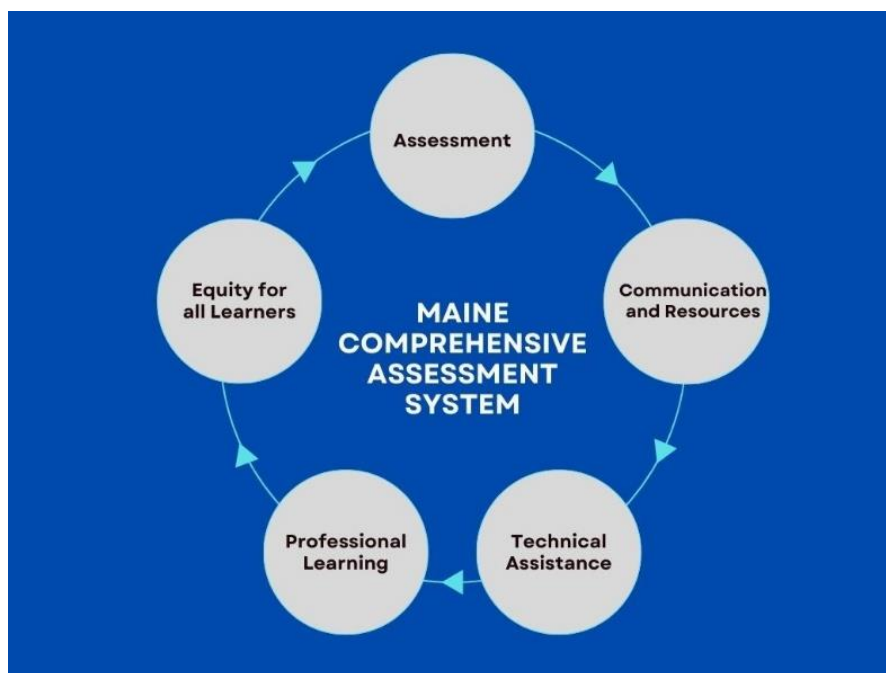
Mon - Wed: 8am - 4pm

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 – 3/22/24	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.

### **Optional Winter 2024 Administration**

The winter administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment is optional. The window is from January 2 – February 16, 2024.

### **Winter 2024 Resources**

- [Training Slides](#)
- [Winter Administration Checklist](#)
- [Maine Through Year Assessment Quick Reference Guide](#)

### **Daily Change Files**

Daily roster change files will be loaded manually by an Assessment Team member into the Acacia platform each weekday. If you are not seeing expected changes in Acacia, please reach out to Krista Averill at [Krista.Averill@maine.gov](mailto:Krista.Averill@maine.gov) and cc: Leah Jarvis at [Leah.Jarvis@maine.gov](mailto:Leah.Jarvis@maine.gov).

### **SAU Data Clean-Up Tasks**

#### *Reporting Groups*

In order for individuals with the instructor role to be able to see student score results in Acacia, Reporting groups must be created. Directions for creating Reporting groups can be found in Part 7 of the [User and Student Management Guide](#).

#### [SAU Data Clean-Up Checklist](#)

Data clean-up is a vital component of the assessment cycle that ensures both that the Student Score Data File available in Acacia contains accurate information and that SAUs receive MAP Growth reports containing Maine Through Year Assessment RIT score data. The data clean-up window is scheduled for February 26 through March 1, but please note that SAUs can begin many data clean-up tasks from the [checklist](#), such as uploading rosters into the MAP Growth platform, now.

### **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.

Due to the high volume of participants at the first session in January and positive feedback, a second session has been added for February:

- February 8, 3:30-5:00 PM: [Registration link](#)
- **NEW!** February 27, 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.

### NWEA Professional Learning Sessions

Statewide NWEA Professional Learning programming will resume in March. Dates, times, and registration links will become available in mid-February.

### NWEA Technology Updates

[MacOS 14 Secure Browser Bulletin](#)

## 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

In November, 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). The link within the email will have expired; if you need another email sent, please reach out to the Kite Service Desk.

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

The [Reporting Platform User Guide](#) and [Score Interpretation Guide](#) 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](#).

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

*Maine's alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards*

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

### Important Resources

- [MSAA | Department of Education \(maine.gov\)](#)
- [Maine DOE 1% Resource Page](#)

## National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

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

[Contact Regina](#)

### **Administration window extended to March 22, 2024 .**

Please remember that parents/guardians of students selected for NAEP must be notified prior to the assessment. The notification dates for students must be entered and certified in the NAEP Assessment Management System. If you have any questions about the activities related to the preparation for the NAEP administration, please contact Dr. Regina Lewis at [regina.lewis@maine.gov](mailto:regina.lewis@maine.gov) or 207-530-1355.

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

- ***Notifying families of the students.*** Parent/guardian notification letters are available in English and Spanish with in 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 top 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.

### ***NAEP preparation activities for On-site Technology Coordinators include:***

- ***Work with school or district technology staff*** as necessary to add the email domain westatstudies.com to the safe senders list;
- ***Complete Internet Speed tests in each room*** that will be used for the assessment one week prior to the scheduled assessment date.
  - Contact your school coordinator for these locations.
  - If you have not already done so, please assist with safelisting URLs. A complete list is located in the NAEP Assessment Management System.
- ***Plan to be onsite and available*** before as well as during the administration of the assessment on the day of the assessment.

### ***February NAEP Nugget:***

The [National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\) survey questionnaires](#) are completed by students, teachers, and school administrators at schools participating in a NAEP assessment. Survey questionnaires collect additional information about students' demographics and K-12 education experiences. The responses collected via these questionnaires provide important information for educators, policymakers, and researchers to better understand the context in which students learn, and, in turn, can lead to improvement of teaching and learning in our nation's classrooms.

## 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)**

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) evaluates education systems worldwide by assessing 15-year-olds in key subjects. This summer PISA plans to release the results of the 2022 administration of the PISA Financial Literacy assessment. Data and information from earlier releases and previous assessments are available from the [National Center of Education Statistics](#) and from the [OECD](#).

The focus of PISA 2015 was science. A [number of released items](#) are available to allow the public the opportunity to experience and understand more about the PISA 2015 science assessments. One can also explore the concepts and competencies assessed as well as learn what 15-year-olds students at different proficiency levels can do.

## ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

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

[Contact Jodi](#)

Updated manuals and guides are available on the [Maine DOE English language proficiency assessment](#) webpage:

- [23-24 Accessibility & Accommodations Manual](#)
- [District and School Test Coordinator Manual](#)
- [Test Administration Manual](#)

### Important Upcoming Dates:

1/8/24 – 3/1/24	Test Window
3/12/24	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC
4/30/24	ACCESS Reports and Data Files Available- Online in WIDA AMS
5/16/24	ACCESS Reports Available in District- Printed
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