



Maine’s Journey to the New Maine Through Year Assessment

Maine is leading the nation in providing educators with a statewide assessment in reading and math that delivers actionable information to educators and families

In the 2019-2020 school year, as our community worked to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maine Department of Education (DOE) recognized the need to provide our educators, students, and families with timely and useful information to support student learning. To meet this goal, the Department formed a partnership with [NWEA, the creator of MAP Growth assessments](#).

With many educators across Maine already using NWEA’s MAP Growth assessments, the Maine DOE leveraged our partnership with NWEA to work together to develop a new, innovative statewide assessment, the Maine Through Year Assessment in Reading and Mathematics. The Maine Through Year Assessment marks a transition from MAP Growth interim assessments—adopted as an emergency measure during the pandemic to measure growth against national norms—to a through year assessment system which maintains the value districts receive from RIT scores as a measure of student growth throughout the year and, at the end of the year, results in summative performance scores based on the Common Core State Standards to comply with federal assessment and accountability requirements.

Students in grades 3-8 and second year of high school will participate in the Maine Through Year Assessment. The first administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment will be in spring 2023, and then beginning in the fall of 2023 students will take the Maine Through Year Assessment in the fall, winter (optional), and spring. Given this is a new assessment, the Maine DOE will partner with NWEA and stakeholders to analyze the assessment results and set benchmark/achievement levels. Due to this, the results from spring 2023 will be delayed. For all future administrations, School Administrative Units can expect results within 24 to 48 hours.

Providing Educators with the Actionable Information

With the transition to the Maine Through-Year Assessment, the Department will be able to provide immediate, actionable, and instructionally-relevant information that will provide educators with the information they need when they need it to help provide a positive impact on long-term outcomes for the students of Maine.

As Maine moves towards this new system, educators will have the opportunity to participate in [Maine DOE-sponsored professional learning opportunities](#). These opportunities will be designed to support educators as they use data from the Maine Through-Year Assessment for instructional purposes, and build the assessment literacy of Maine educators, from formative assessment and instructional process through the supports and application of the Through Year Assessment.

As Maine transitions to the Maine Through Year Assessment, educators and students will experience a more aligned and connected assessment system across the school year, providing educators and families with information to support student learning and providing information to the Maine DOE, School Administrative Unit (SAU) leaders, and policymakers to understand areas of support needed throughout the state while meeting federal requirements.

Maine Through Year Assessment

Through-year assessment model administered in the fall, winter (optional), and spring

Provides educators timely information on student growth and mastery of standards to inform classroom instruction

Is aligned to Maine’s accountability standards: the Common Core State Standards

Produces the necessary data for a summative score for federal accountability purposes