



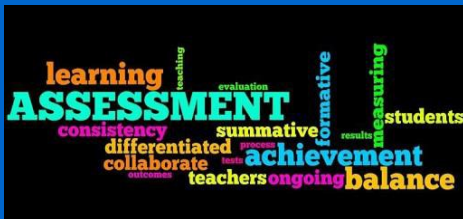
Assessment Update

May 2021

Volume 5, 2021

Professional Learning Opportunities

The new Maine DOE professional learning calendar is now available on the Maine DOE website. There are many opportunities for professional learning available to Maine educators. The new calendar has increased functionality including a search feature.



Assessment Windows Now Open

Corona Virus (COVID) Resources for Schools

Department and Commissioner updates related to the COVID-19 pandemic are available for schools. Please also note a resource page for families contains updates materials and resources.

Assessment Title	Administration Date(s)
MSAA ELA/Literacy & Mathematics	3/15/21 -5/14/21
ELA/Literacy & Mathematics NWEA	3/01/21 - 6/15/21
MSAA Science	3/15/21 - 5/14/21

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Meet the Team

Alternate Assessment – MSAA & MSAA Science

As a reminder, there **are two (2) weeks** remaining in the alternate assessment administration window for 2021. Assessment Coordinators, please check in with Assessment Administrators to ensure the following:

- Students are on schedule to complete the assessments by **5/14/21**.
- Any printed assessment materials are being securely stored and are destroyed at the end of the assessment window. with any questions.

Reminders to Test Coordinators and Administrators

Regarding the Early Stopping Rule

- The lack of an observable response mode is the only reason the ESR can be applied.
- The ESR is not applied based on a student's behavior, stamina, knowledge of the content, frustration level, or refusal to participate in the test.
- The ESR is not applied if the student responds to one of the first four items, if any other items are administered, or if the student provides a response in the other content area.
- The ESR cannot be applied if the test status for all content areas is "not started."

How to Implement the Student Response Check and Implement the Early Stopping Rule

Read more about the Early Stopping Rule on pages 43-45 in the [Test Administrator Manual](#)

Communication

Due to the increased volume of emails during an assessment administration window, you may receive an out of office message from assessment coordinators. Please note, they are very much in the office, however, may not be able to immediately respond to your emails. The out of office messages provide specific guidance should you be experiencing challenges with assessment administration. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

Stay in the DOE Loop:

Teachers & district test coordinators may sign up to receive Assessment Listserv notices for general assessments and for the Alternate Assessment. For those looking for notifications regarding the ASSESS / Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, please subscribe to the ESL Communication list. Please use the following links to subscribe:

[General Assessment MEA Listserv](#)

[Alternate Assessment Listserv](#)

[WIDA / ACCESS English Learner Listserv](#)

[ACCESS for ELLs & Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Assessment Window](#)

Window Closed



NWEA Math & Reading Updates

NWEA administration and training materials continue to be added to the [NWEA webpage](#). Now available are practice assessments for students to familiarize themselves with the look and format of the online platform, in addition to use of the universal tools and features available to all students. Students can practice navigating the assessment in a variety of grade levels and content areas. The login Credentials same for every content/grade.

NWEA MAP Growth Practice Assessments

Username: grow

Password: grow

NWEA Support & Help Desk:

(855) 430-1777 or techsupport@nwea.org

Maine Science Updates

Manuals and Guides are now posted on the [Science webpage](#). All science manuals and guides are housed in [MESCIENCE.ZENDESK](#).

- [Device & System Requirements for Online Assessment](#)
- [Lockdown Browser Installation & Setup Instructions](#)
- [Maine Science Assessment Accessibility Guide](#)
- [Assessment Administration Manual Grade 5](#)
- [Assessment Administration Manual Grade 8](#)
- [Assessment Administration Manual High School](#)
- [Online Accessibility Tools User Guide](#)
- [Quick Guide, Starting Your Maine Science Assessment](#)

Upcoming Data Deadlines

- Please keep student enrollment records up to date in Synergy. This data is pulled periodically by Department teams. Updated and accurate enrollment data in Synergy allows the Department to upload student lists, utilize reported data therefore reducing the burden on schools/districts.
- Please ensure all District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) contacts and other contacts are current in NEO. In this time of uncertainty and adaptation, it is imperative that all contacts be accurate and up to date. This will provide Maine DOE personnel the ability to contact the appropriate person in order to share applicable and important information in a timely manner. Such roles are listed in the DOE [NEO Dashboard SuperSearch](#), which requires no login credentials. If a DAC needs to be updated/changed, directions are located on the [assessment webpages](#). (login credentials required)

Assessment Office Hours

Assessment office hours continue to be implemented on a weekly basis alternating between focused sessions for DACs and assessment in general. All Q & A documents related to sessions provided beginning Friday, February 5, 2021 are available on the [Assessment Administration Materials and Training](#) webpage. Recordings of the office hours are now also available and have been added to the page.

- [Technology User Guide for School & District Assessment Coordinators](#)
- [Technology User Guide for Assessment Proctors](#)



Science Training Sessions & Scheduled as Follows:

What's Different about the Maine Science Assessment – NGSS Overview video (30 min)

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/qt1k-3FRwcQ>

Prior to Live Q&A question submission form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/kREeGg1y9B>

Live Q&A Session **Rescheduled for Tuesday May 4, 2021 3:30 – 5:00**

NEW Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/98626333365?pwd=Ri9QY1pFaXIDbVVjZExLUMFCbVROdz09>

Meeting ID: 986 2633 3365

Passcode: Maine

One tap mobile +13462487799,,98626333365# US (Houston)

Installation of the ADAM Lockdown Browser (completed 4/29/21)

Review the Guides:

[Lockdown Browser Installation and Setup Instructions](#)

[Device and System Requirements for Online Assessment](#)

Live Q&A Session held 4/29/21. [The recorded session is now available.](#)

Science ADAM Online Assessment Administration: Rostering, Accessibility, Proctoring

[Rostering and Proctoring Videos](#)

Review Guides:

[Technology User Guide for School and District Assessment Coordinators](#)

[Technology User Guide for Proctors](#)

[Online Accessibility Tools User Guide](#)

Prior to Live Q&A question submission form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ZhC431FA1t>

Live Q&A Session **Thursday May 6, 2021 3:30 – 5:00**

NEW Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91287880527?pwd=M0NiaFpBQ1FQMDd6WHVadWF6ZFZvdz09>

Meeting ID: 912 8788 0527

Passcode: Maine

One tap mobile +13462487799,,91287880527# US (Houston)

Science Assessment Student Tutorial / Practice Now Open

DOE Assessment Team announces availability of the Maine Science Assessment Student Tutorial/Practice assessment. This is available now web/browser-based and will also be within the lock-down browser (same test code) once installed on student devices.

Web address = adamexam.com/tester/

Test Code = N2JGTQ (no TTS)

Test Code = UNZJNJ (with TTS)



NOTE: This student tutorial/practice does NOT include practicing science content-related items. As this is Maine's first online science assessment, the tutorial/practice demonstrates how the different tools and item types function in the platform, including:

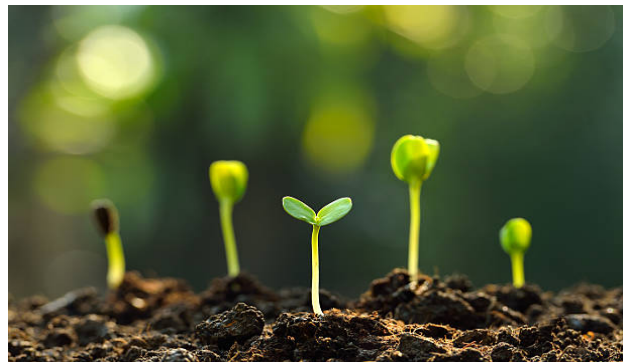
Tools

- Next / Back / Pause / Resume
- Accessibility Tools (Color Scheme, Font Size, Zoom)
- Line Reader
- Highlighter
- Flag / Review / Finish
- Response Masking

Item Type Demo:

- Multiple Choice (one choice)
- Multi-Select (more than one answer)
- Short Answer/Constructed Response
- Technology Enhanced Item (TEI)
 - Drag and Drop
 - Select Buttons in a Table
 - Drop Down Menus
 - Short Answer/Constructed Response

Maine Science Support & Help Desk:
(855) 5544-0842 or MEScience@adamexam.com



Accountability Waiver Request Public Comment Snapshot

Maine Department of Education (DOE) is requesting accountability and reporting waivers pursuant to §8401(b) from requirements within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015). USDOE requires state educational agencies, when seeking waivers from statutory or regulatory requirements, to solicit and respond to public comment on the request and provide evidence of the available comment period. This 14-day public comment period will be available from April 27, 2021- May 10, 2021. A full copy of the waiver request can be located on the [Maine DOE's ESSA webpage](#). [The released public notice can be located in the Maine DOE Newsroom](#).

Land of the Free Because of the Brave



Accountability Snapshot

Although the Department will be requesting a waiver from implementing accountability requirements in the fall of 2021, the data team in collaboration with Maine IT will take an “accountability snapshot” as of May 15. This “snapshot” of student enrollment contains information related to how confidential data is provided to Maine SAUs. This data will also be used to populate the ESSA Data Dashboard. Maine SAUs are asked to review the details in the ESEA Demographics Detail Report and certify the ESSA Demographics Certification report by June 15, 2021 at which point the data will be finalized and captured in a snapshot dataset. Some particular elements

to pay attention to include but are not limited to: Demographics, Alternate Assessment Students, Special Considerations, Full Academic Year. **As the assessment window for the ACCESS for ELs assessment was extended until 4/16/2021 and an initial data file has not yet been received from WIDA DRC, we will be unable to include EL student exemption information within the data review. We are determining a mechanism by which a district can review this data in the future once data sets are available and will communicate this with you as soon as this has been determined.** Any discrepancies observed in the ESSA demographics certification report should be corrected in your local student information system and uploaded to the state Synergy system. Updates will reflect in the report within 2 hours. Further questions regarding the snapshot should be sent to MEDMS.Helpdesk@Maine.gov.

ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs WIDA Assessment Resources

[Understanding ACCESS for ELLs Scores 2021](#)

Many thanks to Maine SAUs for their good faith efforts to administer this year's English Language Proficiency assessments when safely feasible. District reports will become available online on **June 18, 2021** and printed reports mailed to districts on **July 12, 2021** to support EL educators and administrators in targeting necessary supports and resources for the upcoming school year. This year's delay in receiving the data is a necessary downstream effect of extending the administration window to fourteen weeks, which in turn was a critical step in providing additional flexibility and support to schools this year.

Return Materials

As a reminder, all return materials (ACCESS) must be postmarked no later than **April 30th, 2021**. For more information about returning materials to DRC, please review the Returning Materials PDF in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) download library [login required].

Coordinator for Alternate and WIDA Assessments

Jodi Bossio-Smith, jodi.bossio-smith@maine.gov

National Assessment of Educational Progress NAEP 2021 School Survey

Maine schools originally selected for participation in NAEP for the spring of 2021 are participating in the monthly NAEP 2021 School Survey. The survey gathers information regarding grade 4 and 8 student instructional modes and attendance rates. The next window for data submission is May 19 – June 2. The final submission window will be June 16 – 29. A pdf copy of the NAEP 2021 School Survey is located here for your convenience.

Later this month, a new state-level dashboard will be released that will highlight the state and national level data collected through your submission. We will share the link when it becomes available. The Maine Department of Education recognizes the importance of accurate and reliable data to guide decision-making and appreciates the commitment of Maine schools selected to participate and to make corrections to the data when necessary. Thank you all for your efforts to collect and submit this important data.


2021 NAEP School Survey			
Original Window	Expanded Window	Original Report Date	New Report Date for Expanded Windows
(5 workdays)	(10 workdays)		
April 19-23	April 14-27	3-May	5-May
May 24-28	May 19-June 2	7-Jun	10-Jun
June 21-25	June 16-29	5-Jul	July 7 or 8

NAEP 2021 School & Teacher Questionnaire Study

The NAEP School and Teacher Questionnaire submission closed on April 27th. Thank you to all the teachers, principals, and school coordinators for taking the time to complete these surveys that provide the contextual NAEP data.

Please feel free to email [Regina Lewis](mailto:Regina.Lewis@msaa.org) with any questions.

If you require technical assistance with the alternate assessments, please contact the MSAA Service Center:



For more information about the Multi-State Alternate Assessment visit www.msaastates.com.

For assistance, contact the MSAA Service Desk:
 Phone: 866-834-8879
 Email: MSAAServiceCenter@cognia.org
 Live Help: [Click to Chat](#)

Coordinator for Alternate and WIDA Assessments
 Jodi Bossio-Smith, Jodi.bossio-smith@maine.gov, with any questions.

NEO & Synergy Reminders

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Next Publication of Assessment Monthly Update June 1, 2021

