

# Assessment Office Hours



Friday March 26, 2021

Please post questions you may have in the chat box – we will work to answer them during the session and add them to a Q & A document.

We will begin shortly.



## Welcome

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### Agenda

- Updates
  - Annual “MEA” family letter now available
    - [https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing\\_Accountability/MECAS/supports](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/supports)
  - NAEP
  - MSAA
  - Science
  - NWEA
- Special Considerations
- Q & A

Today’s agenda is as follows:

Item of note is the annual MEA family letter. This is the template letter the team generally provides for districts share with families regarding the upcoming assessment administration windows. The letter is available and translated into 10 languages frequently used in Maine.



## Updates - NAEP

- NAEP 2021 School and Teacher Questionnaire Study (Online)
  - Special study collecting contextual information related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education
- Who?
  - Teachers of mathematics and reading of the NAEP 2021 sampled schools and grades (Grade 4 and/or 8)
  - Principals or their delegates at NAEP 2021 Sampled Schools
  - No Student Questionnaires
- Timeline
  - Completed via a single administration of an online survey
  - Administration window: March 29 to April 23
- For additional assistance
  - NAEP representative will contact the designated school coordinator the week of March 29th
  - NAEP helpdesk – phone: 800-283-6237 or email: [naephelp@westat.com](mailto:naephelp@westat.com)

### ***NAEP 2021 School and Teacher Questionnaire Study***

In November, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) postponed the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) until the next school year. At that time, NCES emphasized that the possibility of administering NAEP questionnaires remained open. NCES has decided to conduct the NAEP 2021 School and Teacher Questionnaire Special Study, which involves administering the school and teacher questionnaires along with additional questions related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The focus of the study will be to understand how topics such as technology use and access, resources for learning and instruction, organization of instruction, teacher preparation, and self-efficacy (related to delivering remote instruction) affect education across the nation. ***The administration of the survey will occur February 15 through March 26, 2021 and will be delivered via an online questionnaire.***

Grade 4 and/or 8 mathematics and reading teachers will be asked to complete the online questionnaire, which takes about 25-35 minutes to complete. Only the teachers from the NAEP sampled grade and school need to complete these one-time questionnaires. The designated school coordinator will be asked to provide the

contact emails for the eligible teachers through the MyNAEP portal. Additionally, the coordinator or a school administrator will be asked to complete a single administration of the 40-minute school questionnaire designed specifically for this study.

A NAEP representative will contact the designated school coordinator the week of March 29, and ask for a list of questionnaire respondents' names and email addresses. Outlined below is a broad overview of the types of respondents needed, and the study window.

<b>School Questionnaire respondent:</b>	School principal or other school administrator
<b>Teacher Questionnaire respondents:</b>	Grade 4 or 8 mathematics and reading teachers
<b>Study window:</b>	March 29 to April 23

More information about NAEP survey questionnaires can be found at [https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/experience/survey\\_questionnaires.aspx](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/experience/survey_questionnaires.aspx)



## Updates - NAEP

- NAEP 2021 School Survey Study (Online)
  - Special study related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education
- Who?
  - Principals or their delegates at NAEP 2021 Sampled Schools
  - No Student Questionnaires
- Timeline
  - Completed monthly through the end of the school year
  - Submission of February data Open Now....March 17 – 26 (**ENDS TONIGHT**)
    - Next Submission April 14–23 (EXTENDED...Please submit prior to school vacation)
    - 4th submission May 24 – 28
- For additional assistance
  - Resources for assistance with attendance rate questions are available on request
  - NAEP helpdesk – phone: 800-283-6237 or email: [naephelp@westat.com](mailto:naephelp@westat.com)

***The survey window is now open for the submission of the February data (March 17 -26). Just a gentle reminder that this is tonight. (During the last window several schools contacted me regarding making corrections or updates after the window had closed.)***

***The next administration of the NAEP 2021 School Survey is scheduled for April 14–23rd. This window was extended to accommodate schools with a vacation/break scheduled during April.***

The Maine Department of Education will receive a data file from each of the monthly data collection windows as well as a final cumulative data file.

Maine received the data from the initial survey administration this week.

Thank you for all the schools who make the effort to provide this data. Maine schools are doing a great job providing survey responses and completing the survey.

The public reporting dashboard is available on the **Institute of Education Sciences** (IES) website at:

**[Monthly School Survey Dashboard](#) (link for copying to browser:**

<https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/>).

The School Survey Dashboard provides insights into learning opportunities offered by schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey will contribute to IES's response to the [Executive Order on Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers](#). Results from this new pilot survey will also be available for analyzing the 2022 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data—contributing additional contextual factors for understanding educational outcomes of the nation's fourth- and eighth-grade students. The survey is scheduled to collect data five times, once a month from February through June of 2021. The initial data collection ran from February 22 through March 12, 2021. [See more information about the sample and how to interpret results](#).

Data (including participation rates, percentage estimates, and standard errors) are available for download for [grade 4](#), [grade 8](#), and for [grades 4 and 8 combined](#).

On the dashboard, you will find answers to the following questions:

To what degree did schools offer remote only, hybrid, or full-time in-person instruction at the time of data collection?

What was the proportion of students overall and by various student groups enrolled in each instructional mode in January?

What type of hybrid model was offered in January?

On average, how many days were students offered in-person instruction under the hybrid instructional mode in January?

How many hours of synchronous (i.e., live) instruction did students receive on average daily under the remote learning mode in January?

Which student groups received priority for in-person instruction in January?

\*\*\*\*\*

Over the next two administration windows, validation rules, and other reminders will appear within the survey.

You will also find a link to a pdf copy of the previously submitted data on the MyNAEP portal.

While you cannot make changes to previous, we do ask that you continue to provide the most accurate data you have.

Most of the automated communications that are sent through the MyNAEP platform are sent to the schools. District level providers should communicate with the schools and vice versa. I apologize for this inconvenience.

On the next slide I will provide a quick overview of an additional question added by the Biden Administration that appears in the survey as of Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

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## Previous & Background notes

The Department plans to use this data to support schools as they develop ongoing instructional models and plans. A pdf copy of the NAEP 2021 School Survey is [located here for your convenience](#). [https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing\\_Accountability/MECAS/materials/natint](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/materials/natint)

(path = [Home](#) → [Assessment & Accountability](#) → [Maine Comprehensive Assessment System \(MECAS\)](#) → [Assessment Administration Materials & Training](#) → [National & International Assessments](#) → National & International Assessments)

Maine schools originally selected for participation in NAEP for the spring of 2021 are participating in the monthly NAEP 2021 School Survey. 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.

The National Center for Education Statistics will administer the survey monthly to gather information regarding grade 4 and 8 student instructional modes and attendance rates through the end of the 2020-21 school year.

U.S. Department of Education Announces Survey to Address the Requirements of [Executive Order 14000](#).

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) at the U.S. Department of Education recently [announced a national survey](#) intended to collect data pertaining to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and educators. This project is known as the "NAEP 2021 School Survey".

Maine schools originally selected for participation in the National Assessment of Education Progress for the spring of 2021 will participate in the monthly NAEP 2021 School Survey. 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. Maine districts and schools selected for participation were notified by the department during the latter part of February.

The goal of the survey is to provide data to inform policy and identify needed resources to continue to support in-person learning. This data will be collected at the national and local level(s). Please note that this study does not require student participation and involves only the schools originally selected for the postponed NAEP 2021 assessment. The survey takes about 30 minutes to complete each month and will be available on the MyNAEP for Schools site.

The survey is located within the Provide School Information section of the MyNAEP site. [www.mynaep.com](http://www.mynaep.com)

The MyNAEP helpdesk may be contacted at  
Phone: 800-283-6237  
Email: [naephelp@westat.com](mailto:naephelp@westat.com)

***The individual designated to submit the responses for the school(s) will complete the survey at the end of each month, during the following windows:***

***February 22- March 12***

***March 17-26***

***April 14-23***

***May 24-28***

***June 21-25***

NCES will administer the survey monthly to gather information regarding grade 4 and 8 student instructional modes and attendance rates through the end of the 2020-21 school year. The status of in-person learning will be disaggregated by student demographics, including race/ethnicity, disability, English learner status and an economic disadvantage indicator. The first iteration of the survey will be collected during the last week of February with subsequent data collections occurring each month through the end of the academic school year. State and national data, dependent on participation, are planned for release monthly and then as a final report following the end of the data collection. The Maine Department of Education will receive a data file from each of the monthly data collection windows as well as a final cumulative data file. The Department plans to use this data to support schools as they develop ongoing instructional models and plans. A copy of the NAEP 2021 School Survey is [located here](#) for your convenience.

The results will not be used for allocating or withholding federal funds in any way. All data will be aggregated and will not be publicly reported at the school level.

More information about the NAEP 2021 School Survey is available at [COVID-19 Planning and Resources - About | NAEP \(ed.gov\)](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Regina Lewis at 207-630-1355 or [regina.lewis@maine.gov](mailto:regina.lewis@maine.gov).

Links to survey instructions.

District [https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP\\_2021\\_School\\_Survey\\_Instructions\\_for\\_Districts.pdf](https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP_2021_School_Survey_Instructions_for_Districts.pdf)

Schools

[https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP\\_2021\\_School\\_Survey\\_Instructions\\_for\\_Schools.pdf](https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP_2021_School_Survey_Instructions_for_Schools.pdf)

Copy of the updated monthly school survey is located [here](#):

[https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP\\_2021\\_School\\_Survey\\_Fillable\\_Form.pdf](https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/NAEP_2021_School_Survey_Fillable_Form.pdf)

Copy of the update tip sheet for the school survey is located [here](#):

[https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/Monthly\\_School\\_Survey\\_Tip\\_Sheet.pdf](https://docs.mynaep.com/myschool/documents/Monthly_School_Survey_Tip_Sheet.pdf)



## Updates - NAEP

- Additional Question Added
  - Question 10 added to assist with monitoring President Biden's initiative to vaccinate teachers
  - Please answer as accurately as possible (Drop down menu)
  - **THIS ESTIMATE IS FOR THE DATES UP TO & INCLUDING FEB. 28th**

Full Screen Mode

10. As of 2/28/2021, approximately what percentage of teachers in your school had received at least one shot of a COVID-19 vaccine?  
Please select the percentage of teachers: ⓘ

0% ▾

Back to Beginning Back Save Submit Exit

- Reminder to click submit

An additional question, #10, was added as of Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

The question was added as a method of monitoring the vaccination of teachers, which is a priority and a concern held by the Biden Administration.

Please remember that the department does receive a copy of the data and we appreciate your efforts to provide data that is accurate as possible regarding this item as well as the other survey items.

***This information does not have to be exact. Please provide the BEST ESTIMATE for the SCHOOL.***

For this round of data collection please estimate the percentage of teachers that had received at least one dose of the vaccine by **February 28<sup>th</sup>**.

In Maine, as in other states, this number is expected to be low for the current data collection.

**The text of the question reads as in the slide:**

10. As of 2/28/2021, approximately what percentage of teachers in your school had received at least one shot of a COVID-19 vaccine?

*Please select the percentage of teachers:*

The responses are in increments of 10 percentage points from 0 through 100 and includes an option of "I don't know".

0%

1-10%

11-20%

21-30%

31-40%

41-50%

51-60%

61-70%

71-80%

81-90%

91-100%

I don't know



## MSAA and MSAA Science

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Administration window is March 15-May 14

- TCs should confirm their student rosters in the MSAA System.
- Training modules must be completed before TA/TC can access the assessments.
- Alternate snapshot was taken on March 19th.
- Please confirm with all SPPS programs that the TA has participated in required trainings and created a schedule for assessment of eligible students.

The MSAA window is open and off to a great start! As a reminder, the window has been extended through May 14 to provide additional flexibility to our schools. All Test Coordinators should have confirmed TA accounts and student rosters by now and be close to, if not totally, completed with the training modules in the system. The alternate snapshot was taken on March 19 to capture which students will participate in the alternate and general assessments.

As a reminder, participation in required assessments falls to the responsible SAU. Please confirm with the alternate assessment coordinator in your district/school that TAs have been identified, accounts created, and training completed in all SPPS placements both in and out of state.



## ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

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- 3 weeks remaining in the assessment window.
- Completed writing test booklets, grades 1-3, should be sent back to DRC ASAP.
- Online reports will become available to districts on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Printed reports will become available on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

There are now 3 weeks remaining in the ACCESS window. Please continue to administer the assessment domains when safely possible. As a reminder, the writing booklets are hand scored and if your 1-3 writing domains are completed, DRC has asked that those materials be shipped back as soon as possible to ensure a timely delivery of data from the assessment.

With an eye towards planning for the 21-22 school year, online reports will become available to districts June 18<sup>th</sup>. These are a valuable resource utilized for targeting necessary supports and resources for English learners in the upcoming academic year.



## Maine Science Assessment

- Science Assessment – Paper-based requests
  - Reserved for students as an accommodation outlined in an IEP or 504 Plan
- Options:
  - Regular font print (12 pt.)
  - Large Print (18 pt.)
  - Online platform has embedded Universal Tool (available to everyone) ZOOM feature. This increases in increments up to 500%.

Qualtrics Survey Ordering Process (new) Science webpage

[https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing\\_Accountability/MECAS/materials/meascience](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/materials/meascience)

[Request for Paper-Based Science Assessment](#)

The 2021 Maine Science assessment is administered via an online platform, in-person. The Maine science assessment assesses what students know and can do related to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). These NGSS standards focus on cross-cutting concepts, science and engineering practices, and disciplinary core ideas with items grouped or clustered, including Technology Enhanced Items (TEI). Features available within this online assessment will not be available within a paper-based assessments. A paper format should only be requested for a student with is an accommodation in an IEP or 504 Plan.

Please note: The Maine Science assessment contains the “ZOOM” feature as a universal tool. This increases text size up to 500%. Paper based copies have a maximum of 18 pt. font.

New this year is the online Qualtrics Survey process for ordering, rather than a paper form request. Should you need paper-based general Science assessments, please find the link on the [Maine Science webpage](#). Please place orders as soon as possible.



## Maine Science Assessment Training Projection

### 1. General NGSS Science Overview

- Focus on science and engineering practices along with the application of knowledge rather than rote recall
- Disciplinary Core Ideas, the Science and Engineering Practices, and the Cross-Cutting Concepts outlined in the Performance Expectations of the NGSS
- Webinar prerecorded & posted week of April 12<sup>th</sup>
- After viewing the recorded webinar, a live review Q&A session will be held April 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Audience: Science Teachers + others interested**

Phase 1 science assessment training will be a general NGSS Science overview which will focus on outlining Disciplinary Core Ideas, the Science and Engineering Practices, and the Cross-Cutting Concepts outlined in the Performance Expectations of the NGSS.

DOE and New Meridian will prerecord this first session and post on the Science webpage during the week of April 12<sup>th</sup>.

After giving the field time to watch and/or re-watch the prerecorded session, digest information and construct questions, a live review Q&A session will be held April 27<sup>th</sup>



## Maine Science Assessment Training Projection

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2. Science Technical Platform (ADAM)
  - Lockdown browser & installation set up
  - System requirements for online testing
  - User roles/rostering/classes
  - Audience - **DACs and Tech Coordinators**
  
3. Administration
  - Using the ADAM platform for student administration
  - Audience - **DACs, School Assessment Coordinators and administrators/proctors**

Phase 2 will be primarily for DACs and Tech Directors/Coordinators. This will cover the technical aspects of the New Meridian platform ADAM. This training will include Lockdown browser & installation set up, system requirements for online testing, and overall technology guidance. The date for this is to be determined.

Phase 3 will be all personnel involved in the administration of the science assessment.



## **NWEA New Users Welcome Email**

Reminder: If any districts did not receive and sign Rider F User Agreements, please contact Nancy Godfrey, Assessment Coordinator

*Sender: "State Program – Maine via DocuSign"*  
*Subject Line: "Action Required - All SAUs – Maine DOE/NWEA Assessment Program Participation"*

Welcome email to new district users outlining onboarding tasks:

*Sender: [noreply+imp@nwea.org](mailto:noreply+imp@nwea.org).*  
*Subject Line: District Name: Welcome to NWEA – MAP Setup.*

As a reminder if any districts did not receive or sign Rider F User Agreement, please contact Nancy Godfrey, Assessment Coordinator. Please note the sender and subject line in the email.

Once the user agreements are returned to NWEA, a welcome/intro email is sent out to new districts, not current NWEA users as previously reported in other office hours. Please again note the sender and subject line in the email.



## NWEA Assessment Web Pages

▼ Training

▼ Manuals & Guides

▼ Additional Materials

Math & ELA/Literacy  
NWEA webpage available  
– materials and  
resources are posted as  
received.

[https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing\\_Accountability/MECAS/NWEA](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/NWEA)

The Math and ELA/Literacy NWEA DOE webpage is open but still in the process of development. As manuals, accessibility/accommodations, resources and technology documents are obtained, they are posted here. Many of the materials will not necessarily appear in the 3 blue accordion files (training, manuals & guides, additional materials) as previously (downloadable word.docs or pdf's), but will be direct links to NWEA's website.



## NWEA Sessions

- Mathematics (required)
  - “Math 2-5” for grades 3, 4, 5
  - “Math 6+” for grades 6-8 & HS
- Reading (required)
  - “Reading 2-5” for grades 3, 4, 5
  - “Reading 6+” for grades 6-8 & HS
- Language Use (optional this spring and will be required fall 2021 and spring 2022)

NWEA	REQUIRED	OPTIONAL
Who is assessed?	Grades 3-8 & 3 <sup>rd</sup> year HS	Grade 10
Map Growth Sessions	Math 2-5 (Grades 3, 4, 5)	
	Math 6+ (Grades 6-8 & HS)	
	Reading 2-5 (Grades 3, 4, 5)	Language Use
	Reading 6+ (Grades 6-8 & HS)	Language Use

Each session takes approximately 45 – 70 minutes for completion.

This is not a timed assessment. Sessions not completed during a scheduled time can be reopened.

Within the NWEA platform, it is possible to administer sessions more than once, however one administration of each session should be given during the spring window.

DOE will be constructing a decision rule to apply for instances when it may be necessary for sessions to be repeated ('retest policy')

The assessment takes the average student between 45-70 minutes to complete each session of the assessment.



## **NWEA Training - Onboarding**

### MAP Growth Onboarding

- **WHO:** required for new district users
  - DACs, Tech Coordinators, School Assessment Coordinators
- **Duration** - 75 minutes
- **When:** 10 repeat sessions from initiated 3/22 and running through 3/31
- Remaining Live session options:

Monday, March 29 – 12:30
Tuesday, March 30 – 9:00
Wednesday, March 31 – 9:00

The initial onboarding session for districts new to NWEA began Monday 3/22, and 10 repeat sessions are scheduled. In order to participate in any/all trainings, individuals will need to register via the process outlined in the welcome email. As of today, three sessions remain March 29, 30 and 31. One of these 10 sessions will be recorded and posted on NWEA webpage.



## NWEA – Onboarding Agenda

### Implementation Overview & Tour the MAP Administration Site

- Required for new user districts – open to anyone
- Quick References
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Technology Requirements (High-level requirements and where to find technical resources)
- Student Resources and Preparation
- Rostering (Including how to add a user or student by hand and update user roles)
  - **\*\*NEW\*\* Utilization of CLEVER available fall 2021 /spring 2022**
- System Preferences
- Remote Assessment Resources

Implementation Overview & Tour the MAP Administration Site - Required for new user districts – open to anyone

Quick References

Roles and Responsibilities

Technology Requirements (High-level requirements and where to find technical resources)

Student Resources and Preparation

Rostering (Including how to add a user or student by hand and update user roles)

System Preferences

Remote Assessment Resources

**\*\*NEW:** There have been questions from the field regarding utilization of Clever program for rostering. Clever will not be supported in NWEA rostering spring 2021, and DOE is working with NWEA to make this available for fall 2021.



## **NWEA Professional Learning**

### MAP Growth Remote Assessment Planning

- **WHO:** Personnel administering NWEA (School Assessment Coordinators, Assessment Administrators/Proctors)
- **DURATION:** 2.0 hours
- **WHEN:** Tuesday March 30, 9:00 – 11:00
- **Registration:** <https://www.cvent.com/d/rjqsbp>
  - \*This session is currently full. Please register to be placed on waiting list. Session to be recorded/posted.

To register for these professional learning sessions, please visit <https://www.cvent.com/d/rjqsbp>.

\*This session is currently full. Please register to be placed on waiting list. Session to be recorded/posted.



## NWEA Professional Learning

### MAP Growth Basics with Remote Considerations

**WHO:** Personnel administering NWEA (School Assessment Coordinators, Assessment Administrators/Proctors)

**DURATION:** 2.0 hours

**WHEN:** Options outlined in the welcome email:

- Monday, March 29 – 3:00 – 5:00
- Tuesday, March 30 – 3:00 – 5:00
- Wednesday, March 31 – 3:00 – 5:00
- Thursday, April 1 – 3:00 – 5:00
- Friday, April 2 – 3:00 – 5:00

**Registration:** <https://www.event.com/d/rjqsbp>

The MAP Growth Basics session is optional and open for all interested. These begin Monday 3/29 with 5 repeat sessions scheduled. In order to participate in any/all trainings, individuals will need to register via the process outlined in the welcome email. One of these 5 sessions will be recorded and posted on NWEA webpage.



## NWEA MAP Growth Practice Tests

There are MAP Growth practice tests available to students/anyone, even without having a MAP Growth account.

They can be accessed at: <https://practice.mapnwea.org/>

The login credentials are the same for everyone:

- Username: grow
- Password: grow

There are MAP Growth practice tests available for anyone to use, even without having a MAP Growth Account. These allow students to familiarize how to interact with the item types and the available universal features (zoom, notepad, etc).

This can be shared with anyone wanting to simulate the student experience.



## NWEA Support

NWEA Maine Help Desk at: 855-430-1777

Timeframe	Hours
1 week before, during & 1 week after the administration window	7 am – 6 pm EST
All other times	7:30 am – 4 pm EST



NWEA has established a dedicated Maine phone number 855-430-1777. Extended customer support hours during the assessment windows, Chat, email, supports are also available in addition to support from Andrew Wallace, technology director at South Portland school district and Nancy Godfrey, assessment coordinator



## Special Considerations

- Individual requests for Significant Medical Emergency reason (other than COVID-related) still via the NEO/MEA Module  
<https://neo.maine.gov/DOE/NEO/Accounts/Account/Login>
- Bulk upload process information posted
- [https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing\\_Accountability/MECAS](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS)
  - Applicable to COVID-19
  - Please reach out to the applicable assessment coordinator to obtain the process

All 2021 assessments must be administered in-person with the exception of the NWEA Math & ELA/Literacy, which can be given remotely. For the in-person assessments, we ask that districts/schools conduct best faith efforts to bring students in for these assessments, with plans in place following COVID health and safety guidelines, during each individual assessment window.

Individual requests for Significant Medical Emergency reason (other than COVID-related) still via the NEO/MEA Module.

DOE developed a process for schools to request special considerations requests under the new COVID/Quarantine reason for groups of students who are eligible to participate in an assessment, but the assessment must be given in-person and due to COVID reasons the students are not able to come to a school building for testing.

If groups of students cannot either come to a school-based environment at all during the entire individual assessment window, then you would use the bulk exemption process. The large groups for this survey are considered five (5) or more students, however you may choose alternately to submit individual requests via the [NEO/Maine Educational Assessment Special Consideration Portal](#).

This bulk special consideration process is optional. Special Considerations requests are submitted by superintendent or principal.



## Waivers & Redesign

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- Waiver currently being drafted
  - Possible release for public comment in the coming weeks

### Redesign

- Identification of dates for initial sessions
  - Notice and sign up will be forthcoming

The waiver from accountability elements is under development with the planned release in the newsroom early the week of 3/22. Please be on the look out for the public comment notice.

Tentative dates have been set aside for the convening of the groups related to the assessment and accountability design. Please be on the look out for information that will be forthcoming.



## Tentative Tech Office Hours

Tech office hours in lieu of DAC office hours 4/2

Same link but will be sent additionally to tech directors or similar roles

- Primary audience Tech Director or similar
- DACs welcome to attend
- Focus on rostering
- Small group support

Planning on implementing tech related office hours next week (4/2) in order to support the upload and rostering of students. This support will be geared towards new users but all are welcome. The same link will be used per the assessment office hours – no new link will be provided. We will send a reminder mid-week next week.



## Questions & Answers

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[@maine.gov](https://www.maine.gov)

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Jodi.Bossio-Smith

- MSAA Math & ELA/Literacy
- MSAA Science
- ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

Nancy.Godfrey

- NWEA Math & ELA/Literacy
- Maine Science

Regina.Lewis

- NAEP
- International Assessments

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the team with any questions or concerns.