



Assessment Team Monthly Update

September 2023

ASSESSMENT

Welcome Back from the Maine DOE Assessment Team!

The Team wishes everyone a wonderful start to the school year! As this year gets underway, please keep in mind that the Assessment Team Coordinators are here to support all Maine SAUs with technical assistance across Maine Educational Assessments – general, alternate, national and international. We value your collaboration and feedback, and we look forward to opportunities to reconnect and provide targeted technical assistance in the new school year. As always, do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of service.

Jodi Bossio-Smith
Director of Assessment, Maine DOE

[SAU Request for Assessment Technical Assistance](#)

Join us for monthly office hours with the Assessment Team

2nd Wednesday of every month, 12-1pm

[Register for office hours](#)

This year's first office hour, on September 13th, will include updates across assessments as well as a special focus on assessment security. Hope to see you there!

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 or (207) 624-6896**

Hours:

Mon - Wed: 8am - 4pm

Thursday: 8am - Noon

Friday: 8am - 4pm

Maine Educational Assessments Calendar 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)	Fall: September-October 10/2/23 – 10/27/23	Reading and mathematics	Students in grades 3-8 and 2 nd year of HS	
	Winter (optional): 1/2/24 – 2/16/24			
	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 rd year of HS	
MSAA Science (alternate)			Science	Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades 5, 8 and 3 rd year of HS
Maine Science (general)	5/13/24 - 5/24/24	Science	Students in grades 5, 8 and 3 rd year of HS	
National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)	1/29/24 – 3/8/24	Reading and mathematics Science (grade 8 only)	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 or 207-215-6528.

Release of Summative Spring 2023 Maine Through Year Assessment Data

Spring 2023 Maine Through Year Assessment results data will be available according to the following timeline:

- **Thursday, September 28:** The complete Student Score Data File, containing both Maine-specific scaled scores and RIT scores, is available in Operational Reports. This is a csv file.
- **Monday, October 2:** Access to the Online Reporting System with both aggregated reports and Individual Student Reports becomes available.

At this time, the Student Scores tab is no longer visible in Acacia as it was not functional. The Student Scores tab will reappear on October 2 when access to the Online Reporting System opens.

The following resource is available to assist stakeholders in understanding the reporting of achievement levels in reading and math from MAP Growth and the Through Year Assessment, and it can also be found on our webpage: https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/NWEA

Understanding Maine's Achievement Levels in Reading and Math from Spring 2021 to Spring 2023:

- [Full version](#) (3 pages): Contains details regarding norm-referenced means and standard deviations as well as cut score tables
- [One-pager](#): An abbreviated version for those seeking a brief overview of changes from Spring 2021 to Spring 2023

More resources from the Maine DOE Assessment Team will be coming soon.

Manuals and Guides

Update manuals and guides are available on the [NWEA Maine Connections page](#). The Maine DOE's [Through Year Assessment webpage](#) is being continuously updated as well as new information becomes available.

Maine Through Year Assessment Trainings for Assessment Coordinators

Through Year Assessment trainings for assessment coordinators will be held on the following dates:

- Thursday, September 7th, from 3:00-5:00pm
- Tuesday, September 12th, from 3:00-5:00pm

Assessment coordinators only need to attend one session as the content will be repeated. Topics covered at this training include the following:

- Technology Readiness
- Assessment Management in Acacia
- Accessibility
- Preparing and Monitoring the Assessment
- Proctor/Student Experience
- Data & Reporting

The September 12th session will be recorded and the recording will be posted online.

These meetings will be hosted by NWEA. See below for the link, meeting ID, and password.

The Zoom Link for both meetings is

<https://nwea.zoom.us/j/81177384062?pwd=a1Rha1hHNDRiRVR0d1dranlpSXFRT09>

Meeting ID: 811 7738 4062

Password: 380616

Accessibility and the Through Year Assessment: September 14, 3:00-4:00pm

On Thursday, September 14, from 3:00-4:00 p.m., Maine DOE will be hosting a session on accessibility and the Through Year Assessment. During this session, participants will learn about the three tiers of accessibility features—universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations—including specific descriptions of available designated supports and accommodations, for whom each group of features is appropriate, and how to assign accessibility supports for the Through Year Assessment.

Due to the increased presence of Internet bots at the Assessment Team’s spring 2023 virtual meetings, we do request that you [register](#) using your school/SAU email. The session will be recorded for those that are unable to attend.

RIT Score Comparability Session: September 18, 3:00-4:30pm

On Monday, September 18, from 3:00-4:30 p.m., Maine DOE will be hosting a session on RIT score comparability for the Maine Through Year Assessment and MAP Growth. This session is the second of two sessions and will address new comparability evidence provided by NWEA.

Due to the increased presence of Internet bots at the Assessment Team’s spring 2023 virtual meetings, we do request that you [register](#) using your school/SAU email. The session will be recorded for those that are unable to attend.

Save the Dates!!! NWEA Professional Learning

Please see the dates below for Fall 2023 NWEA Professional Learning sessions. Please note that some dates have been updated based on full access to reports with Spring 2023 data opening on October 2. New dates are in **blue**.

Get Your Teachers Ready for the Through Year Assessment Webinar (*rescheduled due to low enrollment*)

- [Tuesday, September 12, 12:00-12:45](#)

Using Achievement Levels to Ensure Classroom Rigor

- Tuesday, October 3, 3:00–4:00 p.m.

Intro to Reports—Administrators

- Thursday, October 5, 3:00–4:00 p.m.
- [Tuesday, October 10, 3:00-4:00 p.m.](#)
- [Thursday, October 12, 12:00-1:00 p.m.](#)
- [Wednesday, October 18, 3:00-4:00 p.m.](#)

Intro to Reports—Teachers

- Wednesday, October 4, 3:00–4:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 6, 9:00–10:00 a.m.
- Friday, October 6, 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 11, 3:00–4:00 p.m.
- [Thursday, October 19, 3:00-4:00 p.m.](#)

- [Monday, October 23, 3:00-4:00 p.m.](#)

Using Multiple Data Sources to Inform Instruction

- Friday, October 6, 9:00–10:30 a.m.
- Friday, October 6, 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Starting on Friday, September 8, you can register for these events by following this [link](#). Due to the need to change some dates due to the new report availability date, NWEA has indicated they will need one week to update the PL flyer and registration page. We appreciate your patience.

Availability of Longitudinal Data in MAP Growth Reports

After recent inquiries from the field, NWEA has shared more information on accessing historical data through MAP Growth reports: https://connection.nwea.org/s/article/How-long-are-historical-data-reports-available-in-Web-based-MAP?language=en_US. If you are experiencing difficulties accessing historical data, please reach out to NWEA Maine Partner Support at (855) 430-177 or techsupport@nwea.org. If sending an email, please cc: Krista.Averill@maine.gov so that I am able to follow-up as well.

Maine Science Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: Krista Averill

Contact Krista at Krista.Averill@maine.gov or 207-215-6528.

Access to ADAM Closes on September 8th

District Assessment Coordinators' access to ADAM will close on September 8th and reopen in the spring for the May 2024 administration.

Spring 2023 Student Score Results

Maine DOE is excited to be working with KU Achievement & Assessment Institute to develop new score reports for the Maine Science Assessment. Reports will be able to be generated at the SAU, school, and student level. We anticipate that these new reports will be available to SAUs in October 2023.

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](#).

Save the Date for Fall 2023 Alternate Assessment Trainings offered by the Maine DOE Assessment Team:

Overview of Maine's Alternate Assessments (AA-AAAS)

Monday September 11th, 3-4:15pm

[Register for the training here](#)

Alternate Academic Achievement Standards and Maine's Alternate Assessments

Monday October 30th, 3-4pm

[Register for the training here](#)

MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Coordinators

Monday November 11th, 3-4:15pm

[Register for the training here](#)

National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)

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

[Contact Regina](#)

NAEP 2024

SAUs and schools selected for NAEP 2024 were notified over the summer. The National Center of Education Statistics has a long-term goal of remotely administering NAEP assessments through a device agnostic platform. This transition began through field trials conducted during the spring of 2023. For the NAEP 2024 administration, students throughout Maine will participate in NAEP assessments. Each selected student will take an assessment in one subject on a NAEP-owned device such as a Chromebook or Microsoft Surface Pro tablet. The NAEP Assessment Teams will bring all of the devices and provide the staff or administration of the assessment. One change of great importance is that this year NAEP will ask to use school-based Internet, when possible, to conduct the assessment. Each selected school will be asked to designate an Onsite Technology Coordinator to provide information about the school's internet and conduct the necessary steps for the secure administration of NAEP. NAEP field staff will work with districts and schools to determine if this is feasible for each selected school.

***Please advise all principals and DACs to be on the lookout for an upcoming survey related to designating a School Coordinator for the Assessment as well as an Onsite Technology Coordinator. The survey will link will be provided in an email communication containing more details about the NAEP 2024 administration. ***

September NAEP Nugget: The NAEP Assessment Management System (AMS) has been completely redesigned. As you work through the preparatory steps for the upcoming administration, please provide feedback about what is and what is not working. If you have suggestions, tips, or have developed helpful resources, please reach out to Dr. Regina Lewis at regina.lewis@maine.gov. The NAEP AMS is continuously being updated with "just in time" additions for the next steps in preparation for the assessment.

International Assessments

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

[Contact Regina](#)

What's up and coming with the International Assessments:

Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) 2024

TALIS is a survey about teachers, teaching, and learning environments. First conducted in 2008, and conducted every 5 years, the main objective of the TALIS survey is to provide international indicators that will help countries develop well-informed education policy. TALIS offers teachers and principals the opportunity to provide their perspectives on education in the United States. TALIS 2024 will be conducted in spring 2024. Learn more at <https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/talis/>.

ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

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

[Contact Jodi](#)

The ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are Maine's state assessments of English language proficiency. To learn more about these assessments, please visit the Maine DOE [ACCESS for ELLs information page](#).

Save the Date for Fall 2023 ACCESS Assessment Trainings offered by the Maine DOE Assessment Team:

Overview of ACCESS For ELLs for New Test Coordinators (returning coordinators also welcome!)

Monday September 18th, 3-4pm [Register for the session here](#)

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs: An Overview

Monday October 2nd, 3-4pm [Register for the session here](#)

Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the ACCESS Assessment

Monday October 23rd, 3-4pm [Register for the session here](#)

