

**Montana Office of Public Instruction**  
**Published Test Windows for All Required Statewide Assessments**  
**2022–2023 School Year**

	ACCESS for ELLs	Multi-State Alternate	Alternate Science	Science	Smarter Balanced	ACT with Writing
<b>Required Subjects</b>	<b>English Language Proficiency (ELP)</b>	<b>Math and ELA</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Math and ELA</b>	<b>Math, ELA, and Science</b>
<b>Student Group</b>	<b>English Learners</b>	<b>SwSCDs</b>	<b>SwSCDs</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>General</b>
<b>Grades Tested</b>	<b>Grades K–12</b>	<b>Grades 3–8, 11</b>	<b>Grades 5, 8, 11</b>	<b>Grades 5, 8</b>	<b>Grades 3–8</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>
<b>Window Period</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>2 weeks Tues/Wed/Thurs</b>
<b>Anticipated* SY2023 Test Windows</b>	<b>Dec 5 – Feb 24</b>	<b>Mar 13 – Apr 28</b>	<b>Mar 13 – Apr 28</b>	<b>Mar 6 – May 26</b>	<b>Mar 6 – May 26</b>	<b>Window 1: March 28 – 30 &amp; April 4 – 6</b>
						<b>Window 2: April 11 – 13 &amp; April 18 – 20</b>
						<b>Window 3: April 25 – 27 &amp; May 2 – 4</b>
Updated by the Office of Public Instruction on June 2, 2022.		<b>Putting Montana Students First</b> <b>A<sup>+</sup></b>			<b>Note:</b> Dates and information listed in this schedule are subject to change at any time or without notice.	

**Note:** SwSCDs is an acronym for student with significant cognitive disabilities and ‘SY’ is the abbreviation for school year.

**Staying Informed with Testing Alerts**

The OPI Assessment Unit will continue to share information to the field via its [Monthly Assessment Bulletin Newsletter](#), [Monthly Webinar](#), and other communication means. For more information on state assessment, visit the following resources:

- [OPI Statewide Testing Page](#)
- If you are a System Test Coordinator, visit the [STC Corner Site](#) for any testing alerts or announcements specific to your district role.
- [OPI Assessment Unit YouTube Channel](#)
- [Statewide Assessment Overview](#)

# Montana Office of Public Instruction

## Published Test Windows for All Required Statewide Assessments 2022–2023 School Year

### Frequently Asked Questions on State Testing, Accountability, and Reporting in the 2022-2023 School Year —

#### What assessments are required under state and federal law?

1. **ACCESS for ELLs** and **WIDA Screener** is the English Language Proficiency assessment for academic achievement reporting for English Learners (EL) in Grades K–12.
2. **Smarter Balanced** is the general math and English language arts (ELA) assessment for academic achievement reporting in Grades 3–8.
3. **Alternate Science** is the alternate science assessment for academic achievement reporting in Grades 5, 8, and 11 for students with significant cognitive disabilities.
4. **Science** is the general science assessment for academic achievement reporting in Grades 5 and 8.
5. **Multi-State Alternate** is the alternate math and reading/language arts assessment for academic achievement reporting in Grades 3–8 and 11 for students with significant cognitive disabilities.
6. **ACT with Writing** is the general math, reading /language arts, and science assessment for academic achievement reporting in Grade 11.

#### What are the requirements for participation this year Section 1111(b)?

**State testing** (ESEA-ESSA Section 1111(b)) measures student proficiency and progress on state content standards over time.

- The participation requirement to administer state assessments is required under [federal](#) and [state law](#).
- The OPI has extended all testing windows this spring to the greatest extent practicable.
- School districts must plan on providing students the opportunity to assess when it is safe to do so. No student is expected to be brought into in-person learning for the sole purpose of taking statewide assessments.
- The OPI does not have a remote proctoring (at-home testing) service for remote learners. School districts must afford the opportunity for remote-only learners to participate in state assessments in-person and can use the sample parent letters on the [OPI's Statewide Testing Parent Corner Page](#).
- The OPI will continue to allow the shortened version of the Smarter Balanced assessment for Math and ELA in Grades 3–8.
- The safety, health, and well-being of school staff and students is the number one priority.

#### What are the requirements for accountability this year Section 1111(c)?

**Accountability** (Section 1111(c)) is intended to address educational needs and direct resources.

- Montana restarted its federal accountability systems in the 2021-2022 school year.
- All accountability and school identification requirements are in effect. The four indicators are (1) Academic Achievement, (2) Academic Growth, (3) ELP Progress, and (4) Graduation Rate must have greater weight than the 5th or School Quality or Student Success (SQSS) indicator in the aggregate.
- Data from this year's state assessments will be used within the OPI's accountability process for annual meaningful differentiation of schools.

#### What are the requirements for reporting this year ESEA-ESSA Section 1111(h)?

**Reporting** (Section 1111(h)) provides transparent information on these achievement indicators and to support education information processes

- Schools are required to annually measure the achievement of not less than 95 percent of all students and students in each subgroup on its annual statewide assessments.
- Any instances where it was unsafe for a student to participate in the state assessment due to COVID reasons must be reported to the OPI using the "Medical Exemption for COVID Reason" policy as defined within the [MontCAS Policies and Procedures for Participation in State Assessments](#) but only after all test opportunities have been exhausted throughout the published test window.