MontCAS Montana Comprehensive Assessment System
Montana Office of Public Instruction

Statewide Assessment Overview
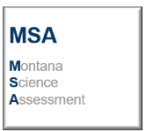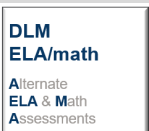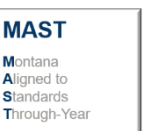# 2025-2026 School Year

Required Assessment	Statute References	Purpose	Subjects Assessed	Grades Assessed	Testing Window (23'-24')	Test Modality	Approx. Students Assessed	Approx. Testing Time	Funding Source
WIDA ACCESS English Language Learners	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(G)[1] (b)(1)(F)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Monitor English Learner progress • Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Speaking ☑ Listening ☑ Reading ☑ Writing	K – 12	Jan 5-Mar 6	Online & Paper	~3,500 (~2.0% of students)	4 – 5 hours	*Federal Grant for State Assessments*
DLM Science Alternate Science Assessment	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(D)[1] (b)(1)(E)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Science	5, 8 & 11	Feb2-May 15	Online	~350 (~1% of grade)	1 – 2 hours	*Federal IDEA Funding*
MSA Montana Science Assessment	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(B)[1] (b)(1)(E)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Science	5 & 8	Mar 2-May 22	Online	~23,000 (11,500/ grade)	1 – 2 hours	*Federal Grant for State Assessments*
DLM ELA/math Alternate ELA & Math Assessments	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(D)[1] (b)(1)(E)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Math ☑ ELA	3 – 8 & 11	**Fall Window:** Sep 8-Dec 19 **Spring Window:** Feb 2-May 15	Online	~800 (1% of grade)	2 hours per subject	*Federal IDEA Funding*
MAST Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(B)[1] (b)(1)(B)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Math ☑ ELA	3 – 8	**Window 1:** Oct 13-Dec.5 **Window 2:** Jan 12-Mar 6 **Window 3:** Mar 30-May 22	Online	~41,000 (7,000/ grade)	2 – 3.5 hours per subject	*Federal Grant for State Assessments and CGSA Grant Funding*
ACT with Writing American College Testing	SEC. 1111 (b)(2)(B)[1] (b)(1)(B)[2] & ARM 10.56	• Provide state, district, school, and individual student data • Program Overview Video	☑ Math ☑ English ☑ Writing ☑ Reading ☑ Science	11	**Window 1:** Mar 24 – Apr 3 **Window 2:** Apr 7 – Apr 17 **Window 3:** Apr 21-May 1	Online	~10,500	3 – 4 hours	*Federal Grant for State Assessments*

Note: Follow the required assessment column and each icon to access the Assessment Profile document and to learn more about each assessment.