

Montana Office of Public Instruction
Published Test Windows for All Required Statewide Assessments
2020–2021 School Year

Grade	ACCESS for ELLs (English Language Proficiency)	Alternate Montana Science Assessment (Alternate)	Montana Science Assessment (General)	Multi-State Alt Assessment (Alternate)	Smarter Balanced (General)	ACT with Writing ² (General)
Window Period	12 weeks	11 weeks	11 weeks	9 weeks	12 weeks	4 Opportunities
Test Window	Dec 2 – Feb 26 ¹	Mar 15 – May 28 ²	Mar 15 – May 28 ²	Mar 15 – May 14 ³	Mar 8 – May 28 ⁴	Date 1: March 23 ⁵ Date 2: April 6 ⁵ Date 3: April 20 ⁵ Date 4: Early May
Required Subjects	ELP	Science	Science	Math and ELA	Math and ELA	Math, ELA, and Science
Grades Tested	K–12	Grades 5, 8, 11	Grades 5, 8	Grades 3–8, 11	Grades 3–8	Grade 11

Updated by the Office of Public Instruction on February 26, 2021.

Putting Montana Students First



Dates and information listed in this OPI's Published Test Window Schedule are subject to change at any time or without notice.

Notes: Any instances where it was unsafe for the child to participate in the assessment due to COVID reasons should 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](#). The COVID reason is a one-year non-participation option for school districts. Under the non-participation reporting collection in the MontCAS Application, the OPI will review the reasons submitted by the district.

- 1 The OPI secured the option to extend the ACCESS for ELLs window from 8 weeks to 12 weeks (December 2 to February 26, 2021) to support schools with test administration flexibilities.
 - 2 The OPI secured the option to extend the Montana Science Assessment (MSA) and the Alternate MSA window from 8 weeks to 11 weeks (March 15 to May 28, 2021) to support schools with test administration flexibilities.
 - 3 The OPI secured the option to extend the Multi-State Alternate Assessment window from 7 weeks to 9 weeks (March 15 to May 14, 2021) to support schools with test administration flexibilities.
 - 4 The OPI secured the option to extend the Smarter Balanced window from 10 weeks to 12 weeks (March 15 to May 28, 2021) to support schools with test administration flexibilities.
 - 5 The OPI secured the option to add a COVID emergency test date for the ACT assessment in early May to support schools with test administration flexibilities. **Online** testing windows are posted on the [Montana ACT site](#).
- + Visit the [Assessment FAQ: COVID-19 Testing Alert](#) for up-to-date alerts on these programs.
- + All testing window extensions have been published in the [FY2021 COVID-19 State Standardized Testing Guidance](#).