



DATE: July 8, 2024

RE: NAEP 2025 Participation

This memorandum is intended to provide you with early notification of the upcoming assessment for inclusion in your district and school calendars. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) will conduct the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) during the 2024-2025 school year. The NAEP assessment is our only national perspective on American education and is often referred to as "[The Nation's Report Card](#)." From October 7, 2024 to May 23, 2025, NAEP will administer two operational assessments: long-term trend (LTT) and main NAEP. The LTT program is a paper-based assessment for ages 9, 13, and 17 in mathematics and reading with three separate windows. Main NAEP is a digitally based assessment for grades 4, 8, and 12 in mathematics and reading from January to March. Participation is required under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorized as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015 for any district receiving Title 1 funding. It is important that we all work together to meet this requirement and ensure that schools receive the monies to which they are entitled.

In 2026, NCES plans to transition to using devices and Internet managed by schools or districts to administer NAEP. This transition is intended to improve the assessment experience for schools and students. The purpose of main NAEP is to learn more about the implications and consequences of transitioning from NAEP-provided devices and networks to school-provided. For NAEP 2025 students will take assessments using school- and district-managed devices and Internet.

Please note the following key features of NAEP:

- Students do not need to prepare for the assessment. They will not know in advance which subject they will be given. Each student is assessed in only one subject.
- The assessment takes about 90-120 minutes of students' time including transition and instructions.
- The assessment protects the anonymity of the participating students and school staff. Data may only be used for statistical purposes; it may not be disclosed or used in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. § 9573). Contractors must protect and destroy all personally identifiable information and ensure that data security and privacy agreements have been obtained.
- Parents must be notified in writing that the assessment is occurring and that students are not required to complete every item on the assessment.
- NAEP Assessment Teams are hired and supervised by Westat under contract with NCES.
- The assessment provides results for Long-Term Trend at the national level. No student, school, or state level results will be available. There will be no publicly released results for NAEP 2025 but will be used to inform the future of NAEP and its pathways towards innovation.

Shantel Niederstadt, our NAEP State Coordinator, will contact schools in July to provide additional information and details on the assessment. If you have further questions, please contact her at (406) 444.3450 or by e-mail at sniederstadt@mt.gov. You may also visit the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard> for additional information. Thank you in advance for supporting this important assessment.

Sincerely,

Elsie Arntzen
Superintendent of Public Instruction