

2024-2025 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW



MONTANA OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

AUGUST 2024

STATEWIDE TESTING WINDOWS

	Anticipated SY2024-25 Test Windows	Required Subjects	Student Group	Grades Tested	Window Period
Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST)	Window 1 October 14- November 22	Math and ELA	General	Grades 3–8	3 windows: 6 weeks each Final Anchor window: 3 weeks
	Window 2 January 13- February 21				
	Window 3 March 24- May 2				
	Window 4 (Anchor only) May 5-May 23				
ACCESS for ELLs	December 2- February 21	English Language Proficiency	English Learners	Grades K–12	12 weeks
Montana Science Assessment (MSA)	March 3- May 23	Science	General	Grades 5, 8	12 weeks
Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA)	March 10- April 25	Math and ELA	SwSCDs	Grades 3–8, 11	7 weeks
Montana Alternate Science Assessment (AMSA)	March 10- April 25	Science	SwSCDs	Grades 5, 8, 11	7 weeks
ACT with Writing	Window 1 March 25-April 4	Math, ELA, and Science	General	Grade 11	3 windows: 3 weeks each
	Window 2 April 8-18				
	Window 3 April 22-May 2				

Updated by the Office of Public Instruction on May 9, 2024.

Putting Montana Students First

Note: Dates and information listed in this schedule are subject to change at any time or without notice.

MAST TESTING WINDOWS

	Window 1	Window 2	Window 3	Window 4
	October 14 - November 22	January 13 - February 21	March 24 - May 2	May 5 - May 23
	6 weeks	6 weeks	6 weeks	3 weeks
MATH	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	1 Anchor Testlet
ELA	2 BOY Testlets	2 MOY Testlets Performance Task	2 EOY Testlets	

Visit the [MAST Portal](#) for additional MAST information and resources

Join us for the [Virtual MAST Summit](#) on Thursday, September 5

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST)

MAST testing in grades 3-8 for math and ELA general population students begins on October 14, 2024. MAST-specific professional learning is available leading up to the first testing window and continues throughout the school year.

All schools must complete math testlet alignment through the Testlet Scheduler before September 20, 2024. Support for additional tasks including user management, rostering, and entering student supports and accommodations, can be found in [Before Testing Tasks](#).

Montana Science Assessment (MSA) & Alternate Montana Science Assessment (AMSA)

The MSA will continue to be the general population science assessment required in grades 5 and 8 while the AMSA will be the alternate science assessment required in grades 5, 8, and 11, both administered in the spring. User and student management, test administration, and reporting is found in the Montana Testing Portal.

Multi-State Alternative Assessment (MSAA)

Students eligible and identified to take alternate assessments will take the MSAA assessment in grades 3-8 and 11 this spring.

Please keep IEPs for all students locked throughout the school year, including students identified to take alternate assessments. Unlocking IEPs affects portal uploads.

ACCESS for ELLs

All K-12 students identified as English Language Learners are required to take the ACCESS for ELLs or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs from December 2-February 21.

Ensure ELLs are marked in your district's student information system to ensure materials are ordered and students are included in the upload to WIDS AMS testing portal prior to testing.

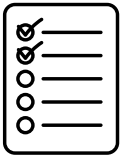
ACT

The ACT with Writing will be the required statewide assessment for math, ELA, and science for the 2024-2025 school year for all grade 11 students (unless alternate) and will be administered online.

NAEP

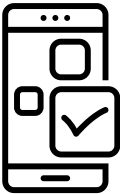
Montana is participating in both Long-Term Trend and Main NAEP assessments this year. Schools selected for each assessment will be contacted by the NAEP State Coordinator.

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS



DISTRICT TESTING PLANS for the 2024-2025 School Year

Updated plan checklists are found on the [Test Security](#) page of the [OPI Montana Comprehensive Assessment System](#) website. Testing plans are due by October 10, 2024.



REQUIRED TEST SECURITY SCREENS within the MontCAS Application

Each district STC must complete both test security screens prior to statewide assessments starting by October 10, 2024. Find Focused Support Videos for both screens in the [Test Security](#) tab on the [Stay Informed](#) page of the [OPI Montana Comprehensive Assessment System](#) website.

2024-2025 OUTREACH FOR TEST COMPLETION SUPPORT

The OPI Assessment Team will provide general and completion outreach throughout each testing window to ensure every student has the opportunity to complete each required statewide assessment.

Prior to each testing window and during the initial weeks of testing, a general reminder will be emailed to each district STC with reminders of essential tasks for administration.

As each testing window comes to a close, additional notices will be sent to the STC, Superintendent, and principal of each school with low completion rates to support the completion of all testing.

TESTING AND REPORTING NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

School districts are required to notify parents/guardians of the planned assessments prior to administration as well as the time and format for disseminating assessment results including individual student reports.

Templates and guidance for parent/guardian notification are found on the [Parent Corner](#) page on the [OPI Montana Comprehensive Assessment System](#) website.

STAY INFORMED & FIND SUPPORT

The Assessment Unit and MAST Team provides both synchronous and asynchronous training and support throughout the school year. These include in-person sessions at educator conferences, live virtual technical trainings, the annual STC Workshop, and twice-monthly open office hours.

STC Annual Workshop Series



October 3rd, 10th, & 24th



9:00 AM-4:00 PM



Sessions on test administration, user roles, score reports, security, testing plans, and accessibility

Online Resource Links



[OPI Learning Hub](#)- Houses Assessment Support Courses



[OPI Assessment YouTube Channel](#)



[OPI Assessment Monthly Bulletin](#)

Office Hours

Meet virtually with an OPI Assessment Specialist for support regarding scheduling MAST Testlets, statewide assessments, testing platforms, test security, and testing plan.

MAST SCHEDULER WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS JULY-SEPTEMBER

8:00-9:00 AM every Tuesday

July 23, July 30, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, September 10, September 17

3:00-4:00 PM every Thursday

July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22, August 29, September 5, September 12, September 19

MONTHLY OFFICE HOURS OCTOBER-JUNE

8:00-9:00 AM every first Tuesday

October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3

3:00-4:00 PM every third Thursday

October 17, November 21, December 19, January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19



[ZOOM LINK TO
ALL OFFICE HOURS](#)

OPI Assessment Help Desk

opiassessmenthelpdesk@mt.gov

1-844-867-2569

<https://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Assessment-Accountability/MontCAS>