



WDE Assessment Updates

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Inside this Issue:

- Coming Soon: Test Administrator Power Point **2**
- Released Test Questions Now Available **2**
- Sample Answer Documents for Grades 6-8 **2**
- ACT EXPLORE and ACT PLAN Test Materials **2**
- Frequently Asked Question: PAWS **3 & 4**
- Important Upcoming Dates **4**

Building Coordinator Training Survey

Thank you to all of those who attended the Building Coordinator Training. We really appreciate all of your efforts and want to ensure we are providing the best training we can for our schools and districts. To that end, we would greatly appreciate your input. Here is the link to a quick survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RHJLHQ9> Thank you!

Testing Dates for 2014 and Preliminary Dates for 2015

Below are actual 2014 testing dates, along with preliminary testing dates for 2015. Please advise by March 1, 2014 if you anticipate major problems with these dates.

State Assessment Testing Dates		
	2014	2015
PAWS	March 3-March 28	March 2-March 27
SAWS	April 14-May 2	April 13-May 1
PAWS-ALT	Feb. 17- March 28	Feb. 16- March 27
SAWS-ALT	April 14-May 2	April 13-May 1
Explore	April 14-May 2	April 13-May 1
Plan	April 14-May 2	April 13-May 1
ACT Plus Writing	April 23 make-up May 7	April 28 make-up May 12
Compass	Fall: Oct. 7-Oct. 25 Spring: April 14-May 2	Fall: Oct. 6-Oct. 24 Spring: April 13-May 1
NAEP		January 26-March 6

Wyoming Department of Education Test Administration Resources

Resources for the 2014 Test Administration can be found at the following link: http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/statewide_assessment_system/administration_materials.aspx

Included at this link are the Directions for Administration, the Building Coordinator Training Videos, the test security agreement, and on Tuesday, Feb. 19, there will be a link to a Test Administrator Training Power Point that you can use to plan your own test administrator training.

2014 PAWS and SAWS Assessment Addendum

Corrections to the PAWS and SAWS DFA can be found in the document at this link:

http://edu.wyoming.gov/sf-docs/assessments/2014_important-updates.pdf
Please be sure to print this out for each of your building administrators.

PAWS Recommended Testing Times

The recommended testing times for the PAWS test can be found on our website at the following link: These times are correct, and have been revised from the 2013 assessment.

<http://www.edu.wyoming.gov/sf-docs/assessments/2014-paws-recommendedtesting-times.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

Coming Soon: Test Administrator Power Point

WDE has created a power point to assist in training test administrators. The Power Point will be posted on Tuesday, February 19 at the link with the other test administration resources . This is designed to be a skeletal PowerPoint that buildings can customize to fit their school. Please preview the PPT before showing your building team, because there are fields that will need to be completed by each building. Test Administrator training should not take place until your test materials have arrived, since the DFA's are needed to complete the training.

Released Test Questions Now Available

Test Questions from the 2013 PAWS test are now posted to the WDE website. They can be accessed from the PAWS webpage by clicking on grade level resources at the bottom of the page. They are labeled 2014 Released Test Questions, but were taken from the 2013 PAWS test.

SAWS released test questions will be available in early March.

Sample Answer Document for Grades 6-8

A change to PAWS this years is the use of an answer document at grades 6-8. This may present a unique scheduling challenge for middle schools and jr. highs, so please be careful in planning your testing schedule. Answer documents are secure documents and must be handled with the same high level of security that all testing materials require. You can find a sample answer document at the following link: http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/statewide_assessment_system/administration_materials.aspx

This sample can be used with the released test questions to familiarize your students with the answer document. Please note that the odd number response slots on the answer document will have the letters A, B, C, and D, and the even number response slots will have the letters F, G, H, and J. Please be sure your students are familiar with this patterning before they sit down to take the test.

ACT EXPLORE and ACT PLAN Test Materials

Initial counts for test materials were given to ACT Inc. based on the WDE684 file submitted by schools in October. School staff should check this file to make sure that they will be receiving enough materials for their 9th and 10th graders. This information is available on the fusion website in Statistical Report Series 2 under Data Reporting.

ACT will include an overage for ACT Explore and ACT Plan (except for accommodated formats).

- a. Orders of 1-10 units will receive an overage of 1
- b. Orders of 11-50 units will receive an overage of 3
- c. Orders of 51-200 units will receive an overage of 5
- d. Orders of 201-500 units will receive an overage of 10
- e. Orders of 501-1000 units will receive an overage of 15
- f. Orders of 1001+ units will receive an overage of 20

Any school needing additional materials may either submit a supplemental order form or email your new numbers to Jessica Steinbrenner at jessica.steinbrenner@wyo.gov. Here are the supplemental order forms:

- [ACT Explore Supplemental Order Form](#)
- [ACT Plan Supplemental Order Form](#)

Frequently Asked Questions: PAWS

Answers to frequently asked questions about PAWS can be found here:

http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/statewide_assessment_system/administration_materials.aspx

This list will be updated throughout the weeks as questions roll in, so check back frequently.

Can students annotate their test booklets?

YES: Only a No. 2 pencil may be used, and students should be cautioned to not leave stray marks in the area of the answer for the test item.

Should I clean up stray marks after the test booklets or answer documents are handed in?

NO: Test Administrators should not open test booklets after they have been turned in. Do not review your students' answers for stray marks or circles that are not filled in completely. Follow the Marking Directions in the Directions for Administration and make sure students understand how to fill in the bubbles, but DO NOT go back and check or correct their marks.

Can I read through the test booklet while my students are taking the test?

NO: Test booklets and the test items are secure documents. Only the test takers are allowed to view the contents of the test booklets. The only time a test administrator should be reading the test booklet is when a student uses an accommodation that requires a reader or a scribe. If test administrators are interested in the questions used on the test, they can review the released test questions found on our website or attend one of the item, bias, or data review sessions hosted by WDE each summer. Please check our website in April for information about these review sessions.

Will students be using a reference sheet for math?

NO: The 2012 Wyoming content standards require that students “know the formulas for . . . and use them to solve problems;” (G.7.4) in certain math standards. For this content, the items require that the student know the formula. For content that does not require students to know a formula, the test items were written to include the information needed for solving the problem.

I have some resources I want to print for my students to use. Is it okay for me to do that?

NO: The only resources that students may use are identified on the allowable resources list on page 70 of the DFA. Word walls and dictionaries may NOT be used on the reading test.

What kind of calculators can our students use?

For the 2014 PAWS Math test, students may use either a four function or scientific calculator. Graphing calculators with limited processing capabilities such as a TI-83 or TI-84 are allowed.

Students ARE NOT allowed to use calculators that have any of the following features:

- Computer Algebra System (CAS), such as:
TI-89, TI-92 Plus, TI-Nspire™, ALGEXFX2.0, ALGEXFX2.0 Plus, CFX-9970
- QWERTY keyboards (similar to typewriter keyboards)
- Calculators with attached electronic pens

Frequently Asked Questions: PAWS Continued...**How do we enter the accommodations? I could not do it through TOMS this year.**

This year, WDE is collecting the accommodations information on the test booklets and answer documents. Test administrators will bubble in the accommodations information for each student on the individual test booklets and answer documents. Only the accommodations actually used on the test should be indicated. Also, accommodations for each content area must be entered.

Can test administrators provide definitions of words that are in a reading passage or test items?

NO: All test questions have been through bias and content review with Wyoming teachers. The items, including the vocabulary, on the test have been deemed to be grade level appropriate. Test administrators may not provide definitions to words in a test item or passage.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Jan. 20 - Feb. 24	-- ACCESS Test Window
Feb. 17	-- PAWS-ALT Window Opens
March 3	-- PAWS Window Opens
March 4	-- ACT Explore and ACT Plan Q&A Session (4 p.m.)
March 5	-- ACT Q&A Session (3 p.m.)
March 12	-- Last day for schools to receive ACT Explore and ACT Plan test materials