



WDE Assessment Updates

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ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations System

As many of you are preparing for the ACT assessment this year, you may also be gearing up for the submission of accommodations information to ACT. The Wyoming Department of Education must ask you to hold off on sending this information at this time. We are still in contract negotiations and until the contract is finalized, NO confidential student information should be shared with ACT. We will let you know when the contract is final and it's ok to submit supporting information for the accommodations requests.

NEW: Doman Reports In Fusion are Now Available

Some of you have been awaiting the release of the new domain reports for PAWS, and we are pleased to announce that they are now available in Fusion. These reports will show -- by grade and subject in your school -- performance by domain (aka strand). This will help highlight relative areas of strength and need within mathematics, reading, and science. Please remember that we only have about 6-8 items per domain (e.g. algebraic relationships or key ideas and details), so you will need to avoid over-interpreting these data. We're already contemplating improvements to the reports for next year, employing graphics that will make it easier to see relative strengths and weaknesses and acknowledging the measurement error that's inherent in these kinds of drill-downs. Meanwhile, log into Assessment Confidential in Fusion and look for the Domain Report. If you have questions on these reports, please contact Deb Lindsey at 777-8753.

PAWS/SAWS Test Order Management System Webinar

Save the Date: Test order Management System (TOMS) Training

Wednesday, December 3, 2014, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, MST

Educational Testing Service (ETS) will be hosting a training webinar for all Building Coordinators to review the Test Operations Management System (TOMS), the demographic collection database to be used for the 2015 PAWS and SAWS Administrations.

Please make sure all key staff who use the TOMS system attend the training. The webinar will also be posted to the ETS – TOMS site as well as the WDE homepage to view if staff are unable to attend the live training.

In this training, ETS will review and walk through the current TOMS system.

Register now!

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4298327765672110338>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

[View System Requirements](#)

Assessment Professional Development, December 10 - Register Now!

The Wyoming Department of Education will be offering a professional development opportunity for teachers and pre-service teachers to learn about statewide assessments (PAWS, SAWS, ACT). Participants will be provided with information about accessing, interpreting, and using data from state assessments, including blueprints, PLDs, etc. We will also provide further information surrounding Lexile and Quantile measurements. The workshop will be held on December 10 in Casper.

Please use the link to register:

<http://goo.gl/forms/aag6E3E0SH>

Wyoming Alternate Assessment Administration Training—Save the Date!

On July 1st, the State Board approved a new contract with American Institutes for Research (AIR) to deliver the Spring 2015 and 2016 alternate assessment. The Wyoming Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (Wy-ALT) will be replacing the PAWS-ALT for 2015. Please note that the mandatory administration training will take place this January, 2015, on the dates and in the locations listed below. If you have any questions about the new assessment, contact Deb Lindsey at deb.lindsey@wyo.gov or 777-8753.

January 6 Cheyenne

January 8 Gillette

January 12 Jackson

January 13 Riverton

January 15 Green River

Please continue to watch the newsletter for more information about registration.

PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training - Save the Date!

Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the Wyoming Department of Education will be hosting two Building Coordinator Training sessions to review the responsibilities of the Building Test Coordinator for the 2015 PAWS/SAWS administrations.

- ♦ Tuesday, January 27th
- ♦ Thursday, January 29th

Important Dates

Nov. 11-20 -- NWEA MAP Training opportunities

Dec. 3 -- Test Order Management System Training

Dec. 8 -- ACT Test Administration webcast available on ACT Wyoming State Testing website

Dec. 10 -- ACT Test Accommodation Q&A session

Dec. 10 -- Assessment Professional Development

Jan. 6-15 -- Alternate Assessment Administration Training

Jan. 27 & 29 -- PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training