



# WDE Assessment Updates

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## CCSS and Traffic Signal Report Survey

Thanks to all who responded to the survey we deployed on-line in January. We closed the survey about ten days ago and reported results today to the Legislative Services Office. In next week’s newsletter, we will share the results with you.

### Legislative Update

Phase I accountability legislation is working its way through the Legislature. Some of the major changes proposed include moving the timelines for implementation out another year (e.g. the first school accountability report would be issued for the 2013-14 school year), eliminating the COMPASS from the high school assessment plan, clarifying the equity indicator in the school accountability system, and adding a component to the district assessment systems by 2014-15 that includes “a measure or multiple measures used to determine satisfactory completion of high school graduation requirements and developed in accordance with guidelines established by the state board.” We’ll keep you posted as the legislation is finalized.

### Moving Testing Materials

As found in our Building Coordinators' Manual, district staff may transport booklets only with express permission by the designee, Deb Lindsey at the Department of Education. In order to secure approval, Deb will need to review and approve the protocol the district or school will implement for the movement of the testing materials in question. This plan should describe:

1. An assessment calendar which includes the administration dates and testing locations;
2. The processes and method that ensure the security of PAWS materials while being distributed, transported, and re-collected/returned;
3. Practices that ensure the optimal test environments for students;
4. Any accommodations required for addressing needs of students with disabilities, per their IEPs; and
5. Proctor training.

Please submit your plan to Deb Lindsey (deb.lindsey@wyo.gov) via email.

We recognize and appreciate the effort districts put into the safeguarding of test materials and upholding the standardized assessment protocol as set forth by the Wyoming Department of Education. Ultimately, districts are responsible for ensuring that all test materials are handled in a professional, secure, and confidential manner and in accordance with security requirements and other general procedures.

### ACCESS for ELLs Trainings

- Wyoming WIDA webinars for the ACCESS for ELLs, W-APT, Alternate ACCESS, and ACCESS Score reports are available for viewing [here](#).
- A Score Report Webinar is scheduled for May 7
- ACCESS for ELLs administration training for 2013-14 is tentative scheduled for November 2013

Please note the changes made to the English Learners section of the 2013 Standard Accommodations [Document](#)

### Recommended Testing Times Updated

The 2013 PAWS recommended testing times have recently been updated to reflect changes in the assessment design. Because the constructed response items were eliminated from the assessment, the number of sections on the reading test in all grades has been reduced to two sections, and the math sections for grade 3 have been increased to three sections. The changes in sections and recommended testing times are reflected in the table on the WDE [website](#).

WDE would also like to encourage test administrators and building coordinators to allow students to take a short (5 – 10 min.) break during the 2 hour testing sessions for reading. Because each session has 5 passages, we suggest that the students take a short break after all of the students in a testing room have finished passage 3 in their Student Test Answer Books.

The times and breaks described above are recommendations only; each school should plan testing sessions to fit individual school schedules. Remember, each section must be completed before moving on to another, or before taking an extended break.

### Reminders

- Exemptions – The form for exemptions is available for [download](#).
- Please pay special attention to the accuracy of the WISER ID on assessment materials to ensure the right students are coded to your school. Remember; WISER IDs are required and any inaccuracies may cause delays in the processing of test results and AYP calculations.
- School staff should check their 684 upload 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 scores for students who used state allowed accommodations are not college reportable. [Here](#) is a chart listing the dates for accommodation approval.

### Important Upcoming Dates:

NOW -- NAEP Testing Window  
 -- ACCESS Testing Window  
 -- EXPLORE and PLAN Administration Training is posted

February 22 -- ACCESS for ELLs additional materials deadline

February 25 -- PAWS-ALT Testing begins

March 8 -- ACCESS for ELLs testing window closes

March 11 -- PAWS Window Opens

March 12 -- 3 p.m. Q&A webinar sessions for PLAN & EXPLORE

March 14 -- 1 p.m. REPEAT Q&A webinar sessions for PLAN & EXPLORE  
 -- Districts must ship materials to MetriTech