



WDE Assessment Updates

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-Deb Lindsey-
777-8753

-Tammy Schroeder-
777-3618

-Jessica
Steinbrenner-
777-8568

-Pari Swanson-
777-5292

-Will Donkersgoed-
777-5133

- Robin Holbrook -
777-5217

-Bailey Anthony-
777-5296

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 |

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PAWS Shipments

As of today schools should have received two shipments from ETS. The first shipment included manuals, return labels, header sheets, the Building Coordinator's kit, and test books. The second shipment included the Pre-ID labels. Please inventory you materials. If you are missing materials or have not received these shipments contact the Wyoming Customer Support Line at 1-877-327-9415.

Released Test Questions (RTQ's)

Released Test Questions for PAWS reading, math, and science (new!) have been posted to our website. Just like before, go to the PAWS page, and click on the appropriate grade for the grade level resources. You will find links to the 2014 RTQ's on each grade level page. We will have SAWS released items posted in the next couple of weeks.

PAWS FAQ's Updated

The PAWS questions continue to roll in. Please check out our FAQ's, which are updated from last week's posting. They can be found here:

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

ACT, Explore, and Plan Question and Answer Sessions

ACT, Explore, and Plan Question and Answer Sessions

Here are the links to registrations for the upcoming Explore/Plan and ACT Q&A Sessions (Registration closes **February 28**):

Explore/Plan Q&A Registrations:

- ◆ March 4 <https://act.ilinc.com/register/xjxzmwc>
- ◆ March 12 <https://act.ilinc.com/register/rffybwz>

ACT Q&A Registration:

- ◆ March 5 <https://act.ilinc.com/register/cmvrxyx>

ACT Available Resources

More training webcasts have been posted to the ACT Wyoming State Testing Site. Here are links to some of the trainings that have been recently posted:

- ◆ [Test Administration Training](#)
- ◆ [Room Supervisor and Proctor - Standard Time Webcast](#)
- ◆ [Room Supervisor and Proctor - Accommodated Testing Webcast](#)
- ◆ [Nonsecure Materials Shipment & In-school Pretest Sessions Webcast](#)
- ◆ [Secure Materials Shipment & Preparing for Testing Webcast](#)
- ◆ [Makeup Testing Webcast](#)

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](#)

Important Upcoming Dates:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Jan. 20 - Feb. 24 | -- ACCESS Test Window |
| Feb. 24 - April 2 | -- ACT Window for State-Allowed Accommodations |
| 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 | -- ACT Explore and ACT Plan Q&A Session (3 p.m.) |
| March 14 | -- Schools receive nonsecure shipment of ACT materials |
| March 25 | -- Schools receive ACT Explore and ACT Plan test materials |

SBAC Field Test - Important Activities Before Administration

The SBAC Field Test windows are quickly approaching. Staff in each participating school should know their administration window and be preparing in advance for the test. The windows are as follows:

1. March 18 - April 4
2. April 7 - April 25
3. April 28 - May 16
4. May 19 - June 6

If your school and/or district is signed up for any of the four Field Test windows, make sure of the following:

- ◆ Technology Coordinators at the district and school levels need to be aware of the technology requirements for the test. The secure browser must be installed on all devices you will use for Field Test administration. Specific information can be found in the Technical Readiness Module and the *Technical Specifications Manuals for Online Testing* found on the [Field Test Portal](#).
- ◆ Remember that students logging into the test will use the Confirmation Code and their WISER ID that you entered into TIDE. As previously communicated, the TIDE file was to be uploaded without data in the student birthdate, first name, or last name fields. Instead, the districts were to upload the students' first name in the Confirmation Code field to make the login process easier.
- ◆ Review the checklists posted on the [Field Test Portal](#). These checklists will help [District Test Coordinators](#), [School Test Coordinators](#), and [Test Administrators](#) understand their responsibilities along with general timelines for administration preparation.
- ◆ Access the training modules posted on the [Field Test Portal](#) and encourage all individuals involved in the Field Test to view these modules before testing begins. Two key modules include 1) Accessibility and Accommodations (35 min) and 2) Smarter Balanced Test Administration Overview (55 min).

The [Field Test Portal](#) is updated regularly with new information and resources. Please check it frequently since all Field Test-related resources are located on this site. Some of the most recently posted resources include:

[Math and ELA](#): Timing and Sequencing Charts provide additional details for administration planning. These will help you plan your schedules for the Field Test.

[Keyboard Command Chart for Students](#): This document explains the keyboard commands that students can use to navigate between test features and tools.

[Parent/Guardian Letter in English and Spanish](#): The parent letters have been updated to include language that parents have reacted to favorably in recently completed public opinion research. The letters provide a customizable template that schools can use to communicate with parents about the upcoming Field Test.

In general, students with disabilities and English language learners will participate in the Field Test along with their peers, but the use of accommodations may be different than with PAWS. Please access the [Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines](#) to review this information. Make sure TIDE is updated with students' accommodation information.

If you have questions, contact the Field Test Help Line at 855-833-1969.