



# FAQ WY-TOPP FOR TEACHERS

## WHAT IS WY-TOPP?

**WY-TOPP** stands for Wyoming's Test of Proficiency and Progress. It assesses students on [Wyoming Content and Performance Standards](#). WY-TOPP is administered online with a computer-adaptive assessment, and includes the end-of-year summative assessment, along with interim assessments and modular assessments.

## IS THE TEST WYOMING SPECIFIC?

Yes, WY-TOPP is a customized summative and interim assessment system, built for Wyoming using items aligned to the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards.

## WHAT IS THE SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT?

Summative assessments are end-of-year, standards-based, adaptive assessments which support access and fairness in measuring all students while offering quick, detailed reporting at the domain level. Students in 3rd-10th grades take the WY-TOPP summative assessment in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Writing is assessed in 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th grades; Science is assessed in 4th, 8th, and 10th grades.

## WHAT ARE THE INTERIM ASSESSMENTS?

Interim assessments are similar to the summative assessment in that they are built with similar items, but are shorter and administered during seasonal testing windows. In grades 1-10, the interim assessment is adaptive and offers instant, detailed reporting at the domain level, and educators can see each student's response to items. The K-2 interims are fixed form assessments. Students in grades 1-2 participate in the Fall Interims, and students in grades K-2 participate in the Spring Interims. This data is used by schools to ensure students are proficient in reading by the end of third grade in order to meet [W.S. 21-3-401\(c\)](#).

## WHAT ARE THE MODULAR ASSESSMENTS?

Modular assessments are standards-based, fixed form assessments divided by topic to measure subsets of the standards and offer instant, detailed reporting for the teacher. These assessments are domain specific (e.g., unit exams), and are available on demand in 1st-10th grades.

## IS WY-TOPP ALIGNED TO THE NEW 2016 SCIENCE STANDARDS?

Since school districts have been given three full school years to fully implement their systems to the new standards, the new [2016 Science Standards](#) will not be fully assessed on the summative assessment until Spring 2021. Until then, the science summative assessment will assess students on the [2008 Science Standards](#).



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## HOW DOES THE STANDARDS-BASED ADAPTIVE ALGORITHM WORK? HOW DOES IT ASSESS KIDS ABOVE OR BELOW GRADE LEVEL?

The assessment bank of items includes several items that are identified to assess the different levels of understanding. This can be done on grade, within the grade-level standards. Items selected for each student depend on the student's performance on previously selected items. Thus, each student is presented with a set of items that most accurately align with his or her proficiency level based on grade-level content. Higher performance is followed by more difficult items, and lower performance is followed by less difficult items until test length constraints are met.

## WHAT ARE THE WY-TOPP SCORES USED FOR?

Student scores from the WY-TOPP summative assessment are used as [school accountability](#) measures for growth, equity, and achievement, and in 9th and 10th grades readiness as well. ACT will continue to be used for growth, equity, and readiness indicators in the accountability model, but not for achievement.

## HOW IS THE ASSESSMENT DELIVERED?

The WY-TOPP assessments are online. If a student's IEP states that a student needs an assessment available on paper only, then a paper exam will be provided. There is also an option to print on-demand.

## 2019-20 TEST ADMINISTRATION DATES - [ASSESSMENT CALENDAR](#)

Assessment	Date(s)	Grade Level	Subjects Assessed	Mandatory?
Modulars	On-Demand 9/10 - 6/12	Gr. 1-10	ELA and Math: Gr. 1-10 Writing: Gr. 3-10	No
Fall Interims	9/10 - 10/4	Gr. 1-10	ELA and Math: Gr. 1-10 Writing: Gr. 3, 5, 7, 9	No
Winter Interims	1/14 - 2/7	Gr. 3-10	ELA and Math: Gr. 3-10 Writing: Gr. 3, 5, 7, 9	No
Spring Interims	4/14 - 5/8	Gr. K-2	Reading and Math	No
Summatives	4/14 - 5/8	Gr. 3-10	ELA and Math: Gr. 3-10 Writing: Gr. 3, 5, 7, 9 Science: Gr. 4, 8, 10	Yes



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## WHEN ARE WY-TOPP RESULTS AVAILABLE?

The results from the interims and modulars are available immediately for all areas except writing. The summative results were available on August 13 in the Online Reporting System ([ORS](#)). The [FAQ Cut Score Proficiency Level Ranges](#) help readers to understand these results.

## WHERE CAN I FIND THE PRACTICE TEST FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND PARENTS TO EXPERIENCE?

You can visit the Assessment Portal at [wyoassessment.org](http://wyoassessment.org) to experience a training test. The ELA and Math tests contain 20-24 items each for 3rd-10th grades. The ELA tests for 3rd, 6th, and 9th grades also include sample listening items.

## WHAT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE ONLINE ASSESSMENTS?

A list of tools is available in the [Accessibility and Accommodations Guide](#).

## WHAT TYPES OF ACCOMMODATING TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE ONLINE ASSESSMENTS?

- Color Choice (background and text color)
- Zoom (enlarge 1x, 2x, etc.)
- Language (Spanish translation and Spanish versions of formula sheets)
- ASL and Closed Captioning
- Braille (through refreshable Braille displays and Tiger embossers; a paper option is also available)

## ARE THERE LIMITATIONS ON USING CALCULATORS DURING THE TEST?

Students will not be allowed to use hand-held calculators or tools other than those offered on the assessment platform. Specific tools will be available on test items, when appropriate.

## IS THERE AN OPTION TO PRINT REPORTS FOR PARENTS IN SPANISH?

Yes, simply indicate Spanish in the report printing options.



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## WHAT TYPE OF BRAILLE ASSESSMENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

Students who need assessments in Braille can take the ELA test in UEB contracted, UEB uncontracted, or EBAE contracted form. On the math test, they can take it in UEB Nemeth, UEB math, or EBAE Nemeth code. The summative assessments can be ordered in paper form, and are available online with refreshable Braille or Tiger embosser. Braille availability will be expanded in future years for the interim assessments.

## HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ON ASSESSMENTS?

To see past Assessment Newsletters or to sign up to receive them, [visit the WDE website](#).