

WDE FAQ

WY-TOPP for Parents updated 8/15/2021

What is WY-TOPP?

The Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress, or **WY-TOPP**, assesses students on the **Wyoming Content and Performance Standards**. It is administered online and is a computer-adaptive assessment. In addition to the end-of-year summative assessment, schools also have the option to use WY-TOPP interim and modular assessments.

Is WY-TOPP a Wyoming-Specific Test?

Yes, WY-TOPP is a customized summative and interim assessment system, built for Wyoming, using questions that measure the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards.

What is the Summative Assessment?

The state summative assessment is an end-of-year test that measures how much students have learned during the school year. Students in grade 3–10 take the WY-TOPP summative assessment in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Writing is assessed in grades 3, 5, 7, and 9; Science is assessed in grades 4, 8, and 10.

What Are the Interim Assessments?

Interim assessments are similar to the summative assessment in that they are built with similar questions, but interims are shorter, optional, and taken at different times throughout the year to show student progress. The interim assessments offer instant, detailed results, and educators are able to see each student's response to questions. WY-TOPP interim assessments are available in grades K–10.

What Are the Modular Assessments?

Modular assessments are short classroom tests used by teachers to evaluate student progress at the end of a unit. Modulares are optional, divided by topics, and available on-demand in grades 1–11 for ELA and Math and in grade bands for Science (elementary, middle school, and high school).

How Does a Computer-Adaptive Assessment Work?

A computer-adaptive assessment adjusts according to each student's ability level. Questions selected depend on the student's performance on previous questions. Higher performance is followed by more difficult questions, and lower performance is followed by less difficult questions. This produces more accurate results of student performance.

How Are WY-TOPP Results Used?

- Results from the summative assessment are used by the state to help evaluate school performance. Individual student results are provided to parents, but have no direct effect on student grades.
- Results from the interim assessments are primarily used by school districts to provide an evaluative snapshot of performance. Individual student results are provided to teachers, but have no direct effect on student grades.

- Results from the modular assessments are primarily used by teachers to evaluate student performance on specific topics. Individual student results are provided to teachers who have the option to use them as a portion of a student's grade.

What Does the Test Look Like?

You can visit wyoassessment.org to experience a training test. The ELA and Math Training Tests contain assessment items for grades 3–10. The ELA tests for grades 3, 6, and 9 also include sample listening questions. The Science Training Tests contain assessment items in each grade band (elementary, middle school, and high school).

To learn more about WY-TOPP, visit the [Wyoming Department of Education](#).