

12.0 ADMINISTERING THE NAEP

The [National Assessment of Educational Progress](#) (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what U.S. students know and can do. The [National Center for Education Statistics](#) (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education administers NAEP. Since 1969, NAEP has measured academic progress in subjects such as reading, mathematics, science, civics, U.S. history, and the arts. Under federal law, states and school districts that accept Title I-A funds must participate in the state-level NAEP assessments of math and reading at grades 4 and 8.

From January 26 – March 20, 2026, NAEP plans to administer state and national mathematics and reading assessments at grades 4 and 8 as well as national civics and U.S. history assessments at grade 8. NAEP may also conduct pilot tests in mathematics or reading or special studies at grades 4, 8, or 12.

Most sampled students will take assessments in mathematics and reading using district- and school-managed devices and Internet, while some students will take the assessments on NAEP-owned devices not connected to school Internet. All students selected for civics or U.S. history will take the assessment on NAEP-owned devices not connected to school Internet. Each sampled student will take an assessment in one subject only. Currently, NAEP does not administer assessments to students who participate only in distance learning.

The results from NAEP are published as [The Nation's Report Card](#). For 2025-26, NAEP plans to report student performance for the state and national assessments of mathematics and reading and the national assessments of civics and U.S. history. The [National Assessment Governing Board](#) will release the results approximately one year after administration of the assessments. The release of the state and national mathematics and reading results will be later than the usual NAEP release schedule to allow time to complete bridge studies between the NAEP frameworks from the NAEP 2024 assessments and the new frameworks in place for NAEP 2026.

The Oregon Department of Education notifies district superintendents, district test coordinators, and school principals when NCES selects district schools for NAEP in the upcoming school year. For NAEP 2026, districts selected for the mathematics or reading assessments will be asked to complete a School Technology Survey by the end of August. The School Technology Survey will determine whether a school can administer NAEP assessments on school devices. Most schools that meet NAEP's technical requirements will be assigned to school-device administration mode, but some will be assigned to NAEP-device administration mode as part of a comparability study.

In the fall, ODE asks the principals of selected schools to name a school coordinator to plan for NAEP. ODE recommends that principals name the school test coordinator (STC) as NAEP school coordinator. The NAEP school coordinator will receive a certificate awarding 16 hours of professional development units after the close of the NAEP testing window. The school coordinator will receive a NAEP assessment date in October and may work with the NAEP State Coordinator to request a new date if needed.

The National Assessment Governing Board and NCES establish testing procedures and training requirements for NAEP administration, not the Oregon Department of Education. This ensures that testing procedures are the same in every state to provide common measures of student achievement. NAEP will send a team of trained assessment administrators to each school selected for NAEP. The team is responsible for administering NAEP and for bringing the necessary materials based on the planned mode of assessment. The NAEP school coordinator is expected to be present on the NAEP assessment day to meet the NAEP team and answer their final planning questions. If the NAEP school coordinator cannot be present, they must work with the principal to designate another staff person to meet the NAEP team on assessment day.

ODE works with schools selected for NAEP to prepare for the assessment. For 2025-26, ODE will submit lists of students enrolled in the schools selected for the NAEP assessments for the initial round of sampling in November. For the lists, ODE includes students' preferred names, if that information is available in the state's data collection. If not, ODE includes students' legal names. NAEP school coordinators should review the list of sampled students carefully to determine if the names on the list are appropriate to use on NAEP materials that students will receive. If there is an issue with a name on the list, the NAEP school coordinator should contact the NAEP State Coordinator to resolve the issue.

Schools participating in NAEP must notify the parents or guardians of the selected students that a student may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to finish the assessment, and may skip any test question. ODE provides a template letter for schools to use in conducting parent/guardian notification. ODE verifies that each selected school has completed parent/guardian notification before the scheduled NAEP assessment day.

ODE also provides an optional online training for NAEP school coordinators. This training supports the NAEP school coordinators in preparing for the assessment. The NAEP school coordinators must work with school staff members to update demographic data for selected students and to determine how students with disabilities and English Learners will participate in NAEP.

ODE expects that most students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and all students with a Section 504 Plan will be included in NAEP. According to National Assessment Governing Board policy, only students with disabilities who meet (or met) participation criteria for the Oregon Extended Assessment may be excluded from NAEP at the discretion of school staff.

ODE expects that most English Learners will be included in NAEP. According to National Assessment Governing Board policy, only English Learners who meet both criteria below may be excluded from NAEP at the discretion of school staff:

- Enrolled in U.S. schools for less than one full academic year before the NAEP assessment, AND
- Cannot access NAEP with allowable accommodations.

Since some students may require accommodations to access NAEP and to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, NAEP offers most of the accommodations that Oregon allows. The NAEP 2025-26 accommodations are described in detail in the Oregon Accessibility Manual. Please keep in mind that NAEP does not produce results for individual students or schools. The NAEP

(DTCs)

assessments provide a picture of educational performance and progress at the state or national levels. They do not impose consequences for the student or the school and are instead intended to provide a picture of educational performance and progress at the state or national levels.

The [NAEP Questions Tool](#) provides teachers, students, and parents with sample questions from previous assessments. The [NAEP Survey Questionnaires](#) web page includes links to the NAEP surveys for students, teachers, and principals. Additional NAEP materials, including links to the assessment frameworks and item specifications are available from the ODE [NAEP](#) webpage.

Questions should be directed to [Beth LaDuca](#), NAEP State Coordinator, at 971-208-0091.