

# NAEP 2023 in Your School

## Grades 4, 8, and 12 Field Test



National Assessment of Educational Progress

---

**“NAEP is the only assessment providing half a century of performance data to measure what students know and can do. The state and national trends inform local, state, and national program and policy discussions that improve teaching and learning.”**

—David Atherton, EdD, Principal, Clear Creek Middle School, Gresham, OR

---

### What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an integral measure of academic progress across the nation and over time. It is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in various subjects such as mathematics, reading, and science. The program also provides valuable insights into students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn in and outside of the classroom.

NAEP is a congressionally mandated program administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences.

### How are NAEP results reported?

The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card. Depending on the assessment, NAEP results are available for the nation, states, and select urban districts that participate in the Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA). Results are also available for different student groups, based on factors such as race/ethnicity, gender, school location, and more. NAEP is not designed to collect or report results for individual students, classrooms, or schools.

### Why should my school participate in NAEP?

Your school's participation will help ensure that you and your fellow educators—as well as policymakers and elected officials—have reliable data to better understand and improve student learning.

Your school and students represent schools and students across the country. When students participate and give their best effort, NAEP results provide the most accurate and representative measure possible of student achievement and experience.

### What NAEP assessments will be administered in 2023?

NCES will administer a NAEP field test at grades 4, 8, and 12 between March 20 and April 14, 2023. The NAEP 2023 field test will explore an online assessment platform and transition to different devices, such as Chromebooks, that may be more familiar to students. By participating in the field test, your school will help ensure that upcoming NAEP digitally based assessments continue to be a reliable, meaningful, and efficient measure of student achievement.

Results from the field test will not be publicly released, but will be used to inform future NAEP assessments.

### What will my students do?

Students will complete the assessment on NAEP-provided devices. They will respond to questions in mathematics, reading, or science, and each student will answer questions in only one subject. Students will also complete a survey questionnaire about factors related to student learning, such as their educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom.

It takes approximately 2 hours for students to complete the assessment, including transition time, directions, and completion of a survey questionnaire. A broad range of accommodations are provided for students with disabilities and English learners.

## Who will administer NAEP in my school? What does my school need to provide on the day of the assessment?

NAEP staff will administer the NAEP assessment and provide significant support to your school on assessment day. They will wear necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and follow all school-specific health protocols. Your school will need to provide space for students to take the assessment, including desks or tables. NAEP representatives will also contact your school in the coming months with more information about participation in the 2023 field test.

More information about roles and responsibilities for coordinating and administering NAEP in your school are on the last page of this fact sheet.

## Do teachers need to prepare students for the assessment?

Teachers do not need to prepare their students for the field test but should encourage them to do their best.

## How can my teachers and I use NAEP data to help our students?

The NAEP Data Explorer (<https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore>) is a powerful tool that allows you to examine the relationships between student performance and factors such as instructional practices, school resources, and more.

Questions from previous NAEP assessments can also be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom. Teachers can use the NAEP Questions Tool (<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt>) to see how their students' performance compares to peers in your state and across the nation. Released NAEP questions come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data.

## How was my school selected for NAEP?

Your school was selected as part of a carefully designed sampling process that ensures NAEP-selected schools and students are representative of their district, state, and the nation.

## How is NAEP different from our state assessment?

NAEP serves a different role than state assessments. While states have their own unique assessments to measure student achievement against specific content standards, NAEP is designed to provide a common measure of student performance and progress across the country.



## How long has NAEP been around?

NAEP was first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. In 1990, NAEP was administered at the state level for the first time. The NAEP TUDA program, which measures student achievement in some of the nation's large urban districts, began in 2002. NAEP has come to be recognized as the gold standard of large-scale assessments due to its high technical quality and rigorous design and methodology.

## How often is NAEP administered?

Students in grades 4 and 8 are scheduled to be assessed at the state and national levels in mathematics and reading every 2 years. Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, districts and states that receive Title I funds are required to participate in these biennial assessments. Other subjects are assessed periodically.

## Where can I find more information?

Learn more about the NAEP program at [nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard), and explore the latest NAEP results at [nationsreportcard.gov](https://nationsreportcard.gov).

Visit <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/covid19.aspx> for more information about NAEP COVID-19 protocols.

You can also find NAEP on:



## Roles and Responsibilities for Coordinating and Administering NAEP

Your NAEP State Coordinator, NAEP representatives, and school staff will work together to coordinate and administer the assessment. You will need to assign a staff member from your school to serve as the **school coordinator** and work closely with NAEP representatives to organize assessment activities.

This person will be the primary contact for the assessment and should be familiar with how students participate in statewide assessments and how to use a computer to collect and enter student information online.

### The school coordinator will be responsible for

- confirming the scheduled assessment date with the NAEP State Coordinator;
- registering for the Assessment Management System and providing information about the school;
- if requested, overseeing the submission of an electronic list of fourth-, eighth-, and/or twelfth-graders;
- using the Assessment Management System to prepare for the assessment;
- notifying parents of the assessment (more information will be provided on how to complete this task);
- communicating with NAEP representatives and participating in a preassessment review call to finalize assessment preparations;
- reserving space for the assessment, including room(s) and desks or tables; and
- collaborating with school staff to ensure a high rate of student participation.

*Additional information about the school coordinator's responsibilities will be sent prior to NAEP representatives contacting you.*

### The NAEP State Coordinator works at your state department of education and will be responsible for

- working with schools to confirm the assessment date;
- communicating with principals about the importance of NAEP and student participation;
- providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of students and information about notifying parents of participating students;
- providing guidance for including students with disabilities and English learners; and
- responding to questions from the school community throughout the assessment period.

### NAEP representatives, employed by a U.S. Department of Education contractor to work directly with schools, will be responsible for

- selecting a random sample of fourth-, eighth-, and/or twelfth-graders from the school list;
- verifying information that the school coordinator has provided via the Assessment Management System, the online hub for completing school preparation activities throughout the NAEP assessment process;
- working with the school coordinator to finalize assessment logistics;
- bringing all assessment materials to the school on the scheduled day; and
- administering the assessment.

### Each principal will be responsible for

- assigning a school staff member to serve as the school coordinator;
- including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar;
- empowering the designated school coordinator to work with NAEP representatives to prepare for the assessment; and
- informing school staff and students about NAEP and why student participation is critically important.

---

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) conducts the National Assessment of Educational Progress to evaluate federally supported education programs. All of the information you provide may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). By law, every NCES employee as well as every NCES agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you. Electronic submission of your information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015.

This publication was prepared for the National Assessment of Educational Progress by Hager Sharp under contract GS-23F-0024M to the National Center for Education Statistics.

---