

Smarter Balanced (ELA and Math Assessment) Grades 3-8 and 11; March 6-May 3, 2019

South Dakota is part of the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium, or SBAC, which is a consortium of states that have been working collaboratively to develop a student assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and math.

The SBAC focus is on assessing students annually in grades 3-8 and 11. The system includes both summative and interim assessments and will use computer adaptive testing technologies to the greatest extent possible to provide meaningful feedback and actionable data that teachers and other educators can use to help students succeed.

Results will be sent home in June. For more information, go to <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents/>

MSAA (Alternate ELA and Math Assessment) Grades 3-8 and 11; March 18-May 3, 2019

Alternate Assessment is available for students who have met the significant cognitive disability criteria. These students are working with the Core Content Connectors and their IEP's indicate alternate assessment for statewide testing. Results will be sent out in the fall.

SDSA and SDSA Alt (South Dakota Science Assessment) Grades 5, 8, & 11; April 1-May 3, 2019

The South Dakota Science tests measure students' mastery of the South Dakota State Academic Standards in Science adopted in May 2015 at grades 5, 8, and 11. This test will cover the grade spans of 3-5, 6-8, and high school. Questions will come equally as possible from life, physical, and earth sciences at all 3 tested levels. This assessment will be completely online. Results will be sent out in the fall.

NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) Grades 4 & 8; February 13, 2019

NAEP, often called "The Nation's Report Card", is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subjects. Its two major goals are to measure student achievement and to report change in student performance over time. The NAEP is given to a sampling of students across the nation. The results of the NAEP are given for the entire nation and for individual states. Results are also given for specific groups of students, e.g. gender, racial and ethnic groups, and National School Lunch Program eligibility. Results are not available for schools or individual students. NAEP is given to many South Dakota students in reading and mathematics at grades 4, 8, and 12 every two years. National and state results are reported to the public.

For more information, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>

ACCESS for ELLs (English Language Learners) Grades K-12 January 28; February 28, 2019

Access for ELLs 2.0 is a secure large-scale English language proficiency assessment administered to K-12 students who have been identified as English Language Learners (ELLs). It is given annually in order to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English. ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 is aligned with the WIDA English Language Development Standards and assesses each of the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. The assessment is available in both paper-based and online formats for grades 1-12, while Kindergarten and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are paper-based tests.

Home School Testing (State-provided SAT 10ab) Grades 4, 8, 11; March 25-April 19, 2019

South Dakota students who receive alternative instruction are required to take a nationally standardized achievement test in Mathematics and Reading at grades 4, 8, and 11. The South Dakota Department of Education provides (free of charge) a norm-referenced test to children who receive alternative instruction. Results will be sent home in the summer.

If parents/guardians use a different test than the one provided by the state, it must be a nationally standardized achievement test. These different tests will be at the expense of the parent/guardian and results need to be shared with the school district.

Please contact the school if you have a student in grades 4, 8, and 11 to get testing materials.

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) Grade 11; Fall Assessment

The ASVAB is given to High School Juniors. Seniors can take it if they missed it their junior year or want to retake in order to improve their score. It is given during school hours and scheduled through ASVAB typically in the fall. It is not required.

ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is administered annually to more than one million military applicants, high school, and post-secondary students. The assessment is given by a Proctor from the military and the National Guard will explain results to students usually within a month following the assessment.

NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate) Grade 12; Fall Assessment

The NCRC is an industry-recognized, portable credential certifying essential skills needed for workplace success. To earn certification, students must attain at least the lowest certification level on three ACT WorkKeys assessments: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. This vital initiative is part of the Department of Education's goal to ensure that, "All students graduate college, career, and life ready."

The assessment is scheduled during the fall of each year. Scores are sent to the school and will be distributed to students as they are made available.

ACT – Grades 11 & 12

The ACT is a national college admissions examination that consists of subject area tests in English, Math, Reading, and Science. The ACT test is the leading US college admissions test that measures what students learn in high school to determine their academic readiness for college.

The ACT is not a required assessment. It is not administered during school hours. Students must register for it and there is a fee to take the exam. Results are available online within 2 weeks after the test date. Students must log in through their student web account with ACT to see scores.

For more information about these assessments, go to <http://www.act.org/>.