

Overview of the South Dakota Assessment System

<i>Characteristic</i>	<i>(DSTEP) Dakota State Testing of Educational Progress</i>	<i>Dakota Writing</i>	<i>(ACCESS) Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State</i>	<i>(DSTEP-A) Dakota STEP-Alternate</i>	<i>(NAEP) National Assessment of Educational Progress</i>
<i>Primary Purpose</i>	School accountability - Improve instruction	Improve instructional writing skills	Test of annual English language progress	School accountability - Improve instruction	Benchmark for national standards
<i>Subject Areas Tested</i>	Reading, Math, and Science	Writing	English Language Acquisition	Reading, Math, Science, and Writing	Reading, math, science, and writing
<i>Type of Test</i>	Criterion-referenced (standards based)	Performance-based	Augmented Norm-referenced and performance-based	Standards based and Criterion-referenced	Criterion-referenced and Norm-referenced
<i>Grade Levels</i>	Reading/Math Grades 3-8 and 11 Science grades 5, 8, & 11	5, 7, and 10	K-12	Reading/Math Grades 3-8 and 11 Science Grades 5, 8, and 11 Writing 5, 7, and 10	4 and 8 12 state level pilot in 2009
<i>Item Types or Formats</i>	Multiple choice	On demand, direct measure	Multiple choice, speaking, and writing.	Rating Scale and Supporting Evidence	Multiple choice, constructed response
<i>Administration Dates</i>	Beginning of April	Last week in February	February	February- mid March	Late January - early March
<i>Dates When Results Released</i>	August	August	May	June	September – Reading and Math January of following year - Science or Writing
<i>Frequency of Test Administration</i>	Annually each spring	Annually	Annually for students identified as LEP	Each Spring	Biannually for reading and math. Every 4 years for science and writing
<i>Administration Time</i>	Untimed	50 minutes	2 hours Approximately	Untimed	90 minutes
<i>Test Length</i>	Varies by grade	Two prompts per grade	Varies by grade span	NA	Varies
<i>Assessment Design</i>	Common fixed-length form	Two prompts delivered to every student	Common fixed-length, common prompt and speaking	Common fixed rating scale Supporting Evidence validates rating on rating scale.	Balanced Incomplete Block Spiraling (multiple forms)
<i>Types of Scores Reported</i>	Scaled scores, percentiles, performance levels	Analytic	Scaled scores, percentiles, performance levels	Raw score, performance level	Scaled scores, achievement levels
<i>Achievement Levels Reported</i>	Below basic, basic, proficient, advanced	6 areas with 4 levels each	Entering, Beginning, Developing, Expanding, Bridging, Reaching	Introducing, Developing, Applying Advancing	Basic, proficient, advanced
<i>Levels of Reports</i>	Student, school, district, state	Student, school, district, state	Student, district, state	Student, school, district, state, parent	State, region, nation
<i>Students Tested</i>	All public students, grades 3-8 and 11 (includes alternate assessment)	All students, grades 5, 7 and 10	All public LEP students K-12	Students who meet significant cognitive disability criteria	Sample of schools, sample of students, grades 4 and 8
<i>Testing of Students with Disabilities</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes – no accommodations are allowed	Only for students with significant cognitive disability	Yes, unless NAEP does not provide accommodations required in IEP
<i>Accommodations for Students with Disabilities</i>	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
<i>Testing of Students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, if student is on an IEP and meet criteria significant cognitive disability criteria	Yes
<i>Accommodations for LEP</i>	Yes	Yes	None	Yes	Yes
<i>Policies and Laws</i>	South Dakota Codified Law 13.3.55	South Dakota Codified Law 13.3.55	PL 107-110: Title III and Title 1	South Dakota Codified Law 13.3.55, NCLB and IDEA	NAEP authorization, NCLB, and NAGB policies
<i>History of Program</i>	Began in 1985, major revision in 2003 and 2007	Began in 1998	Began Spring 2003 with the SELP/DELDP	Revised and renamed 2005	1990 for math, 1992 for reading, 1998 for writing, and 1996 for science
<i>Parental Permission</i>	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	Follows local guidelines. Parents can opt their child out
<i>Parental Notification</i>	Not required	Not required	Not required	Parents are part of the IEP team which determines how students will participate in statewide assessment	Required
<i>Test Development</i>	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	Contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and personnel	NAGB, NCES, ETS, Pearson, Westat

