Key Assessment Milestones 2025-2026

	All Assessments	ELA, Math, Science, and Science Alt	ELA & Math Alt (MSAA)	SD - ACT	ACCESS	NAEP
August/September	• Post Test Windows on District Site **Sept. 5** Documentation for Braille and Large Print in TIDE due to DOE **New Assessment Coordinator (AC) Regional Training:** • Sept. 3-4 • Sept. 8-12: Virtual • Sept. 17-18 • Sept. 24-25 Locations TBD	Nightly rolling of student profiles into assessment system begins • Clean up User Accounts • Roster students • **Install secure browsers** **Interims- Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs), Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs), and Focused Interim Assessment Blocks (FIABs) live Aug. 11th** **Virtual Interim Assessment Trainings** • Sept. 16th at 3:30 pm CT • Sept. 23rd at 4:30 pm CT	**July 14 -Sept. 6** Reporting system is live for districts to download results from Spring 2025 testing • After results are downloaded, send out parent letters with student results.	**Sept. 8** Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) opens for Accommodation Requests **SD ACT Website** • https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/state-and-district-solutions/south-dakota.html • Pre-Administration under ACT Now	**Identification:** • 30 Days from beginning of school year screen/identify EL students in Infinite Campus new to district. Once 30 days have passed, schools have two weeks to complete screening and identification of EL students • Install secure browsers • Staff administering Screeners must complete training modules prior to screening students located in WIDA Secure Portal • Aug. 12 @ 11:00 am CT & 3:00pm CT Guide to Identification, Parent Notification, and Infinite Campus webinars • Aug. 14 @ 11:00 am CT & 3:00 pm CT EL Screening Process	**Sept. 19** School Technology Survey • Assessment details sent to schools • School Coordinators register for the Assessment Management System (AMS)
October/November	• Oct. 6 AC Check-In 10:00 am CT • Nov. 3 AC Check-In 10:00 am CT	**Regional Interim Trainings** • Oct. 7- 9 Locations TBD		**ACT Virtual Trainings:** • Accommodations • Pretest Activities	Nov. 6 @ 10:30 am CT & 3:00 pm CT Preparing for SD ELP Assessment Training	**Oct. 6 - Nov. 21** Student lists imported
December	• Dec. 1 AC Check-In 10:00 am CT	**Dec. 1** Science Alt: Students identified for alternate assessment participation must be marked in Infinite Campus	**Dec. 1**: Students identified for alternate assessment participation must be marked in Infinite Campus		Student data file loaded into system Dec. 16 @ 10:30 am CT & 3:00 pm CT ACCESS Paper and Alt ACCESS Training	Complete install of NAEP Application on student or school devices
January/February	• Jan. 5 AC Check-In 10:00 am CT • Feb. 2 AC Check-In 10:00 am CT • Feb. 23 Office Hours 10:00 am CT **Winter Workshops** • Feb. 18 – Sioux Falls* • Feb. 19 – Sioux Falls* • Feb. 23 – Watertown* • Feb. 24 – Pierre* • Feb. 25 – Rapid City*	**Interim Assessment Regional Trainings:** • Jan. 27-29 • Feb. 3-5	**Student data file loaded into system for all students identified in Infinite Campus** • Test Coordinators add Test Administrators to system **Feb. 17** Test Administrators Modules Open	**ACT Virtual Trainings:** • Test Administration & Posttest activities **SD ACT Website** • Test Administration under ACT Now **Window 1a:** • Feb. 24-27	Staff administering tests must complete training modules prior to testing located in WIDA Secure Portal **Jan. 27 Test Window Opens** **Feb. 27: Test Window Closes**	• Assessment Planning Meeting • Technology readiness checks **Jan. 26 Test Window Opens**
March/April	Assessment Office Hours • Mar. 2-Apr. 27 Every Monday 10:00 am CT	**Mar. 1**: Documentation for Text-to-Speech (TTS) ELA Passages & all other non-embedded accommodations due to DOE Staff training modules available **Mar. 6 Interim-ICAs Window Closes** **Mar. 30 Summative Window Opens**	**Mar. 9 Test Window Opens** MSAA Office Hours • Mar.13- Apr.17 Every Friday 11:00 am CT **Apr. 24 Test Window Closes**	**Window 1b:** Mar. 2-6 **Window 2:** • Mar. 10-13 • Mar. 16-20 **Window 3:** • Mar. 24-27 • Mar. 30-31 • Apr. 1-3		**Mar. 20 Test Window Closes**
May/June/July		**May 8 Summative Window Closes** **May 22 Interim-IABs & FIABs Window Closes**	Individual student reports will be available late July	**SD ACT Website** • Post Administration under ACT Now	Individual student reports available: Share with parents and teachers	

COLOR CODE: Important Due Date   Training   Test Window Opens   Test Window Closes

*Dates and locations subject to change. All updates will be posted in the weekly newsletter.

2025-2026 South Dakota Assessment Overview

Assessment Type	Assessment Name	Subject	Grades	Estimated Time to Complete[1]	Testing Window	Recently Arrived in U.S. Exemption Date[2]
General Summative Assessments[3]	SD ELA	ELA	3-8	2 sessions, 1.5-2 hours each	03/30/26 to 05/08/26	Exempt 1st year in country
	SD Math	Mathematics	3-8	2 sessions, 1-2 hours each	03/30/26 to 05/08/26	No exemption in math
	SD Science	Science	5, 8	1 session, 1-1.5 hours	03/30/26 to 05/08/26	No exemption in science
	SD-ACT	Math, English, Reading, Writing, Science	11	English – 35 min Math – 50 min Reading – 40 min Science – 40 min Writing – 40 min	**Window 1:** 02/24/26 to 03/06/26 **Window 2:** 03/10/26 to 03/20/26 **Window 3:** 03/24/26 to 04/03/26	Exempt 1st year in country: English, Reading, and Writing No exemption in math nor science
General Summative Alternative Assessments	SD ELA-Alt (MSAA)	English Language Arts	3-8, 11	Varies	03/09/26 To 04/24/26	Exempt 1st year in country
	SD Math-Alt (MSAA)	Mathematics	3-8, 11	Varies	03/09/26 to 04/24/26	No exemption in math
	SD Science-Alt	Science	5, 8, 11	Varies	03/30/26 to 05/08/26	No exemption in science
EL Assessments[4]	ACCESS	Four Domains: reading, speaking, listening, writing	k-12	Varies	01/27/26 to 02/27/26	No exemption, Required for all EL students
	ACCESS Alt		1-12	Varies		

Notes

[1]Time estimates are for scheduling purposes only. South Dakota Assessments are <u>untimed</u>. Please provide adequate time for students to finish.

[2] First entry by the student in a U.S. school.

[3] Wired Headphones required for SD-Math and SD-ELA.

[4]Wired Headphones with microphone required.

[5]An Embedded Desmos Calculator will be available on the math section of the ACT.