

Assessment News Alert- March 20, 2025

This message was sent to assessment coordinators in public school districts and several approved programs and non-public school systems.

General Assessment Updates

- **Cambium Assessments Open on Monday.** The testing windows for the South Dakota Math, ELA, Science, and Science-Alternate Assessments open on **Monday, March 24**. They will close on **Friday, May 2**.
- **Assessment Virtual Office Half-Hour.** During the testing window, our team will host a virtual office half-hour every Wednesday at 10:30 am CT (9:30 am MT). Zoom information is below:
 - <https://state-sd.zoom.us/j/93061304949>
 - Meeting ID: 930 6130 4949
- **10th grade students graduating early?** If you have 10th graders who may graduate before next year's testing window, please [submit their SIDs using this form](#). These students must complete the required high school assessments this spring, since they need to test once during high school.
- **Assessment System Review Opportunity. Challenge:** We've observed that many districts implement assessments without evaluating their effectiveness. This raises an important question: Are students being over-tested? Are districts utilizing the data?
 - **Solution:** The Office of Assessment is providing two-day in-person assessment system review meetings. Districts can send a team of teachers, principals, and district leaders to these events. Application invites will be sent next month. The purpose of this opportunity is to help your district document, analyze, and improve your assessment system. If your district might be interested, please complete our [Interest Survey](#). Your responses will help us determine the best timing for these review sessions, without obligating you to attend.
- **The Test Administration Manual, standalone checklists and scripts are now available.** Below are the direct links:
 - [Summative Test Administration Manual \(TAM\)](#)
 - [Test Administration Checklists](#)
 - [Test Proctor Script](#)
- **Upcoming Cambium assessment trainings.** South Dakota assessment coordinators, principals, and teachers can [register for the upcoming Cambium virtual one-hour training](#):
 - Reporting System Webinar - **April 3, 2025 (11am-12pm CT / 10-11 am MT)**
- **2024-25 Testing Windows**
 - MSAA (Math ALT and ELA ALT) are open March 10-April 25
 - Math, ELA, Science, and Science ALT are open March 24-May 2
 - Paper Summative Assessments are March 31-April 18
 - Interim Assessments close May 2 (IABs and FIABs)

SD-ELP (ACCESS Updates)

- **Upcoming Timeline for SD-ELP (ACCESS)**
 - 5.6.25 – Districts receive reports and data – Online
 - 5.12.25-5.14.25 – Districts receive reports – Printed