

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 – Aberdeen - Sept. 4 – Sioux Falls - Virtual Sept. 11 @ 10:00 am CT - Sept. 18 – Faith - Sept. 24 – Rapid City - Sept. 25 – Pierre	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 <u>SD ACT Website</u> 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 <u>SD ACT Website</u> - 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	<u>SD ACT Website</u> 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 1 st 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 1 st 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 1 st 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

¹Time estimates are for scheduling purposes only. South Dakota Assessments are untimed. 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.

⁴Wired Headphones with microphone required.

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