



**Española Public Schools**  
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Website: [www.k12espanola.org](http://www.k12espanola.org)

**Assessment & Accountability**  
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## Assessment Guide

The Assessment department's *mission* is to support schools in accurately assessing students' academic performance to ensure ongoing progress and demonstration of grade level standards and competencies. We strive to support schools in accurately maintaining student data and records in order to communicate effectively with all stakeholders, including students, parents and families, teachers, administrators and the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED).

### ***As a district, we support student assessment through:***

- Coordinating testing districtwide as required by NMPED.
- Offering technical assistance to schools, administrators and teachers to disaggregate student test data and plan for meaningful interventions and site-based decision making to positively impact student learning and staff development.
- Communicating test results to parents and families.

### ***Why do we assess students?***

The regular assessment of students' academic performance is an essential component of the educational process. Data supports and tracks the ongoing progress or lack of progress in attaining grade level standards. This data serves to inform parents, families, teachers, administrators and district level staff so that supports can be implemented to increase student achievement and inform classroom level instruction. Further Federal and State Law require all students to participate in mandated assessments. The following laws are in place which require student participation in state mandated assessment:

- Federal: ESEA; HR1, Title1, Part A, Subpart 1, Section 1111, (b), 3, C
- State of New Mexico, section 22-2C-4 NMSA 1978
- State of New Mexico, 6.29.1 .M (1) NMAC

One exception to state mandated assessment, is a student with a rare and unique condition that prevents him or her from receiving instruction may receive a medical exemption with PED approval.

### ***How do we assess students?***

Student assessments administered by the Española Public Schools may include classroom level, teacher monitored, formative or summative assessments related directly to classroom level lessons and instruction. Additionally, teachers will administer short cycle assessments, which target monitoring student growth in real time, in order to inform classroom level instruction and



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intervention strategies for students who are performing below grade level standards. Short cycle assessment administered include:

- ***Istation Short Cycle Assessment***, administered to students in grades K-6, assesses reading and mathematics. Istation's Indicators of Progress (ISIP) Early Reading and Mathematics assessments are sophisticated, web-delivered computer-adaptive testing (CAT) systems that provide continuous progress monitoring (CPM) by frequently assessing and reporting student ability in critical domains of early reading, reading, and math respectively, throughout the academic year. Istation cycles of assessment begin each month and provide a prescriptive intervention routine for students, specific to their learning needs.
- ***Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)***, administered to students in grades 7-12, assessing reading, math and science. MAP interim assessments provide essential information about a student's continuum of learning and growth trajectory. MAP is a tool to help identify strengths and opportunities and focus instruction on the areas of greatest need. MAP assessment cycles are administered at the beginning, middle and end of each school year.

Throughout the school year, students may also be required to take other state mandated summative, or annual assessments dependent on their grade level, or academic needs. State mandated summative assessments may include:

- ***ACCESS for ELLs, W-APT, and WIDA Screener ACCESS for ELLs 2.0*** is the English language proficiency assessment administered to all kindergarten through 12th grade students who have been identified as English language learners (ELs). It is given annually to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English. W-APT for Kindergarten and WIDA Screener for grades 1-12 are the department approved English language proficiency screening assessments administered to potential English learners (ELs) as part of EL identification process
- ***Early Childhood Observation Tool New Mexico Early Childhood Observation Tool (ECOT)***, which includes a PreK & Kindergarten Observation Tool is part of a comprehensive plan to ensure that all New Mexico students have the opportunity to succeed in school. It is an observation-based assessment tool.
- ***End-of-Course Exams (EoC)*** have multi-tiered uses and help meet many educational objectives in New Mexico. Passing scores on New Mexico EoCs are indicative of a student being minimally proficient as described in the performance I level descriptors and course alignment to curricular standards. Educators use EoC results to make curricular decisions that improve achievement outcomes for students.
- ***Istation's Indicators of Progress (ISIP)*** is a computer-adaptive tests that provide continuous progress monitoring by frequently assessing and reporting student ability in



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critical domains of reading and math. Istation exams are required for students in kindergarten-grade 2. Additionally, it is required for all students at participating K-5 Plus sites and as a district-wide interim assessment within Espanola Public Schools.

- The ***National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)*** is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts. The grade levels and subject areas assessed can vary by year.
- ***SAT School Day*** – administered to 11<sup>th</sup> grade students in New Mexico public schools to receive a college-reportable score at no cost to them.
- ***Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)*** – administered annually, in a one-to-one setting to students with significant cognitive disabilities whose Special Education Individualized Educational Programs designate in grades 3-8 and 11 for ELA and Math and in grades 5, 8 and 11 for Science.
- ***New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness (NM-ASR)*** – a new statewide summative assessment for Science, administered at the end of grades 5, 8, and 11. The NM-ASR is designed to measure students' proficiency with the concepts and skills in the NM STEM Ready! Science Standards.
- ***New Mexico Measures of Student Success and Achievement (NM-MSSA)*** – a statewide summative assessment for English Language Arts, Spanish Language Arts, and mathematics, administered at the end of grades 3-8.