



Opportunity Through Education

Standards & Assessment Updates for the 2023 WAVE Conference - Laramie, WY (UW) - August 3, 2023

WDE UPDATES AND COMMUNICATION

- Important updates and information will be communicated through the following means this school year:
 - The WDE Monthly (Newsletter) that is emailed to you toward the beginning of the month.
 - The Superintendent's Updates (bimonthly) that is emailed to you and found [on this page](#).

STANDARDS UPDATES

- The Wyoming Extended Standards (WYES) define the essential knowledge and skills that allow students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to achieve high academic expectations and to access the general academic curriculum. They are linked to the grade-level Wyoming Content and Performance Standards (gen. ed. standards). The Extended Standards can be found on the [Extended Standards page](#).
- The Wyoming [2020 Math Extended Standards](#) are to be fully implemented at the start of this school year (2023-24). (Also refer to the 3rd bullet under Assessment Updates below.)
- Extended Standards for Math and Science will be audited and revised to match up to the audited general education standards. This work is expected to start in this school year. Once adopted, districts will have a few years to implement them into their curriculum, instruction, and assessment systems.

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

- We will host a Statewide Assessment and Accommodations Virtual Open House from **3:30-5 p.m. on September 5, 2023**.
- The **WY-ALT Math** test, to be administered in spring 2024, will assess students for the first time on the [2020 Math Extended Standards](#). Educators can also refer to the [2024+ WY-ALT Math Assessment Blueprint](#) for curriculum planning.
- **Coming soon:** Alternate Assessment Guidance for 2023-24 includes a fuller description of the designation for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (SMSCD) and a checklist for IEP team decision making. Also included is a link to feedback to give us suggestions as you implement this guidance with IEP teams this year.
- **TEST DATES for 2023-24** can be found on the [Assessment Calendar page](#). For this school year only, there will be a **separate WY-TOPP Writing window** about a month before the spring summative administration, to allow additional time needed to hand score student responses.

- **WY-TOPP Summative Writing only:** March 4-15, 2024.
 - **Writing:** Grades 3, 5, 7, 9.
- **WY-ALT:** March 5 – April 12, 2024.
 - **ELA & Mathematics:** Grades 1-10.
 - **Science:** Grades 4, 8, and 10.
- **WY-TOPP Summative:** April 16 – May 10, 2024.
 - **ELA & Mathematics:** Grades 3-10.
 - **Science:** Grades 4, 8, and 10.
- **DTC/BC Virtual Trainings will be held on August 16, 19, and 23.** The WDE invites all District Test Coordinators (DTCs) and Building Coordinators (BCs) **for all assessments** to attend one of the three annual virtual DTC and BC Trainings. Updates for all Statewide Assessments will be provided. A Zoom meeting link will be emailed to all registered participants. [Register here](#) for one of three training sessions:
 1. 8:30-11:30 a.m. on **August 16**, 2023.
 2. 12:30-3:30 p.m. on **August 17**, 2023.
 3. 1-4 p.m. on **August 23**, 2023.

ENGLISH LEARNER ASSESSMENT

- **ACCESS MODEL Interim Assessment (New this year).** The WIDA MODEL (Measure of Developing English Language) is a suite of English language proficiency assessments for multilingual students in grades K-12. As an **optional**, on-demand interim language proficiency assessment, WIDA MODEL can be administered at any time during the school year, depending on the needs of the district, school, teacher or student. The State is paying for one administration per active EL student, starting in October 2023 for this school year (Dates TBD). Scores can be used to predict student performance on ACCESS for ELLs before the state testing window opens in January. For more information about the MODEL Interim Assessment, watch this [video](#) or visit the [WIDA MODEL](#) webpage.