

Introduction to the 2017–2018 North Dakota State Assessments

Factsheet

This factsheet contains important information about the 2017–2018 North Dakota State Assessments (NDSA).

Tests Administered in 2017–2018

North Dakota is no longer offering Smarter Balanced Assessments.

The 2017–2018 NDSA include:

- Mathematics and ELA in grades 3–8 and 10
- Training tests for both mathematics and ELA

Interim assessments will not be administered in North Dakota this year.

Testing Window Dates: March 14–May 18, 2018

Preparing for Testing

1. Each test administrator (TA) must have an account in TIDE in order to administer online assessments. If you do not have a TIDE account, contact your School Test Coordinator. Your TIDE account provides access to all AIR systems.
2. If you were registered in TIDE last year, you will be required to update your password. Passwords must contain at least eight characters and include at least three of the following: a number, a special character, an uppercase letter, a lowercase letter.
3. Test administrators are required to complete the online TA Certification Course before administering tests. The TA Certification Course is required for all TAs, including those who took the course last year. The TA Certification Course is available on the NDSA Portal beginning February 20, 2018.

Accessibility and Accommodations

- Ensure that all student test settings are correctly set in TIDE at least 24 hours before the test administration.
- Paper-pencil accommodations are not being offered this year. However, Braille and print-on-demand accommodations are available.

- A Spanish language accommodation is available on mathematics assessments.

Detailed information on universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations can be found in the *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines* located in the Resources section of the Portal.

Test Administration

Training Tests

TAs may administer training tests to students to familiarize them with the student interface and check that non-embedded tools (e.g., speech-to-text software) are functioning properly. Students may take the training tests as many times as desired using any supported browser. Training tests will be available on the NDSA Portal by March 2018.

Operational Tests

Students must take the NDSA operational tests using the secure browser. Ensure that the secure browser is installed on all testing devices in advance of administration. Students have only a single opportunity to take each assessment in the NDSA. If a test is not submitted by the end of the testing window, it will expire.

Score Reporting

Scores for the 2017–2018 NDSA will be available in the Online Reporting System (ORS) when it becomes available on the Portal in mid-August 2018. Authorized users can also use the ORS to access scores and performance information for prior school years.

Additional Information

Please consult the NDSA Portal for more information on assessment systems and test administration resources.

You can access the Portal at: <http://ndsa.portal.airast.org/>

Contact the NDSA Help Desk

For questions and technical assistance, please contact the NDSA Help Desk by email at ndsaservicecenter@air.org or by phone (toll-free) at 1-855-873-5715.

Help Desk Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.