



Introduction to the 2019–2020 North Dakota State Assessments Factsheet

This factsheet contains important information about the 2019–2020 North Dakota State Assessments (NDSA) in English Language Arts (ELA), math, and science.

NDSA Testing Window: March 16–May 8, 2019

What's New in 2019-2020?

- The Science summative assessment will be administered for grades 4, 8, and 10.
- AIRWays will replace the Online Reporting System (ORS) for viewing score reports beginning January 28, 2020. Score reports for ELA and math will be available from 2016-17 onwards.
- New Universal testing tools will include:
 - English glossary
 - Writing assessment rubrics for grade 8 and 10 Writing assessments.
- New Accommodation/Designated supports testing tools will include:
 - Spanish language toggle will replace Spanish language stacking as the delivery mode. This tool will be available for math and science assessments only.
 - Closed captioning will be available for audio content replacing the need to order Audio Transcripts.
 - Spanish glossary will be available as a designated support for ELA, Math, and Science assessments.
- Braille booklet orders can be placed online on the NDSA portal prior to January 2020 at https://airportal.formstack.com/forms/nd_braille_order_form_201920. Please contact Tammy Mayer at tmmayer@nd.gov for any questions about Braille booklet order.

Online Tests Administered in 2019-2020

- The 2019–2020 North Dakota State Assessment will include the following:
 - ELA (reading and writing) and math will be administered for grades 3–8 and 10.
 - Science will be administered for grades 4, 8, and 10.
 - Math and science assessments will have a Spanish language option that must be set in TIDE.
 - ELA, math, and science assessments will have a braille language option that must be set in TIDE.
 - ELA, math, and science will have training tests available for practice.
- Interim assessments are not administered by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

Preparing for Testing

- Each test administrator 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 or District Test Coordinator. Your TIDE account provides access to all AIR systems.

- If you were registered in TIDE last year, you will be required to update your password.
- The online TA Certification Course must be completed by all test administrators prior to administering the NDSA assessment. Test administrators must take the course regardless if taken last year.

Accessibility and Accommodations

- NDSA Portal site is compliant with WCAG 2.0 AA standards.
- Ensure 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 designated support is available on math assessments. A Spanish Quick Guide is available on the NDSA portal for further help setting up this accommodation at <https://ndsa.portal.airast.org/resources/quick-start-guides-ar-ug/>
- Spanish language Toggle will be the language delivery mode for Spanish in Spring 2020.
- Detailed information on universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations can be found in the NDSA Accessibility Manual located in the resources section of the NDSA Portal.
- Headphones may be required for Reading assessments in grades 5,6, 7, and 10 or if the student has accommodation requirements (e.g. text to speech).
- Braille booklet orders can be placed online on the NDSA portal prior to January 2020 at https://airportal.formstack.com/forms/nd_braille_order_form_201920. Please contact Tammy Mayer at tmmayer@nd.gov for any questions about Braille booklet orders.

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 are currently available on the NDSA portal for ELA and math.

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.

Are there stopping points to the test? Do teachers just pick when to stop?

The tests in each subject can be administered in multiple time segments. The segments do not need to be based on the number of questions completed. Students can start up in a new session where they left off in the last session. However, students will not be able to go back to questions from previous sessions. As a good practice to follow, for example, if students have a 60-minute test period, the TA can tell students after 50 minutes that they have 10 minutes left to review everything they have completed so far because they won't be able to go

back to previous questions the next time they begin a test session.

Is there a waiting period between Reading and Writing?

The ELA portion of the 2019-2020 NDSA will be administered as **2 separate tests** (Reading and Writing). Test administrators will have the option to administer both the Reading and Writing in 1 test session or to break up the administration of the test into 2 separate sessions. This will allow test administrators to administer the Reading and Writing tests on different days.

Score Reporting

- Score reports will be available in AIRWays beginning January 28, 2020. Scores for the 2019-2020 NDSA for ELA and Math only will generally be available after completion of student testing in “near real-time.”
- ELA scores will be available only after both the Reading and Writing have been completed.
- Scores for the 2019-2020 NDSA Science will be available in early Fall 2020.
- Some tests may necessitate human scoring for writing prompts. For tests requiring human scoring it will take up to 10 business days after completion of testing for scores to be posted on AIRWays.
- Authorized users can access scores and performance information for prior school years on AIRWays.

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. (Central Time)