



2019

NAEP in Your Private School

Grades 4 and 8 – Mathematics, Reading, and Science

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.

- First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's public and private school students know and can do in various subjects.
- NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality. From developing frameworks and questions to the reporting of results, NAEP represents the best thinking of assessment and content specialists and teachers from around the nation.
- The schools and students participating in NAEP make an important contribution by representing other schools and students across the country.
- NAEP is a common measure of academic progress across the nation and over time. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card.

Why assess private schools?

Private school data are essential for a complete picture of education in the United States and to inform future policy decisions. Private schools represent about 26 percent of schools in the nation and educate approximately 9 percent of its students. NAEP has consistently demonstrated how student performance in private schools compares positively to student performance in public schools.

Why participate in NAEP?

Your school has been selected to represent other private schools across the nation, and it is vital that all selected students participate. Doing so helps accurately capture the nation's student progress. Schools, students, and teachers who participate in NAEP perform a valuable community service and enable The Nation's Report Card to provide a more inclusive representation of what our nation's students know and can do in key subject areas.

NAEP has the support of numerous private school organizations, including the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE).

The NAEP 2019 program in your school

From January 28 to March 8, 2019, NAEP will be administered in public and private schools across the country. Selected students at grade 4 and 8 will participate in digitally based assessments, conducted on tablets, in mathematics, reading, and science. A small number of students taking the science assessment may take paper-and-pencil assessments. Administering the science assessment via both tablets and paper booklets will help evaluate any differences in student performance between the two types of administration. Each student will be assessed in only one subject and format. NAEP representatives will bring all materials and equipment, including tablets with keyboards, to the school on assessment day. The school's internet, networks, or computers will not be needed. Students will spend up to 120 minutes completing the assessment. This includes transition time, directions, and completion of a student survey questionnaire. The questionnaire provides valuable information about students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both inside and outside of the classroom.

The school principal and the grade 4 and 8 teachers will also be asked to complete a survey questionnaire. NAEP collects information from schools and teachers to provide a more complete understanding of assessment results. Topics such as classroom experience, teacher training, and school policies can be valuable information for education stakeholders who need to gain a better picture of student performance.

The results of the science assessment will be released as The Nation's Report Card.

Continued on next page

“Private schools have participated in NAEP for decades, and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) supports NAEP and encourages your participation.”

– Joe McTighe
Executive Director, CAPE

For more information about NAEP visit:

- Program overview
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>
- Private school participation
https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/participating/private_nonpublic.aspx

What are the responsibilities of NAEP representatives?

NAEP representatives work directly with schools and are responsible for:

- Confirming the assessment date and time with the school;
- Providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eligible students from which a random sample will be selected for participation in the assessment;
- Providing schools with information about notifying parents of selected students;
- Providing resources, guidelines, and support to assist the school coordinator in completing activities and finalizing assessment arrangements;
- Bringing all assessment materials and equipment, including tablets, to the school on assessment day;
- Conducting the assessments; and
- Responding to questions from the school throughout the assessment period.

What are the responsibilities of the principal and school coordinator?

The principal is responsible for:

- Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar;
- Designating a school coordinator to work with NAEP representatives and to prepare for the assessment;
- Informing school staff about NAEP and why participation is critically important; and
- Completing the school questionnaire.

The school coordinator is responsible for:

- Confirming that the suggested assessment date works with the school calendar;
- Securing space for the assessment to take place;
- Supporting teachers' access to the teacher questionnaires;
- Providing a list of eligible students from which a random sample will be selected for participation in the assessment;
- Informing parents about the assessment;
- Completing preassessment activities with guidance and support from NAEP representatives; and
- Ensuring that students attend the session on the assessment date.

*All of the information provided by participants may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). By law, every NCES employee as well as every NCES agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about participants. Electronic submission of participant's information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015. The collected information will be combined across respondents to produce statistical reports.

Find us on:

