



NAEP in Your Private School

Long-Term Trend, Ages 9, 13, and 17

2019–2020

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 25 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. Students 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 2019-2020 program in your school

From October 2019 and continuing through May 2020, NAEP field staff will administer the long-term trend assessments in mathematics and reading in public and private schools across the country. Long-term trend (LTT) results can be linked to NAEP assessments first administered in the early 1970s, allowing us to measure progress over a span of nearly 50 years. The age samples for long-term trend assessments are 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds. The assessment window for each age group is as follows:

- Age 13: October 14, 2019 – December 20, 2019
- Age 9: January 6, 2020 – March 13, 2020
- Age 17: March 16, 2020 – May 22, 2020

Selected students will participate in paper-based mathematics or reading assessments, and each student will be assessed in only one subject. NAEP representatives will bring all materials and equipment to the school on assessment day. Students will spend up to 90 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. There will be no school or teacher questionnaires for the long-term trend assessment.

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“The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) strongly encourages private schools to participate in NAEP, an essential measure of student achievement in the United States.”

– Michael Schuttloffel
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 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; and
- Informing school staff about NAEP and why participation is critically important.

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;
- Providing a list of eligible students from which a random sample will be selected for participation in the assessment (student and school names will not be included in any reports);*
- 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.

*National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is authorized to conduct NAEP by the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. §9622). 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.

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