# NAEP 2027
# Facts for Districts

The Nation's Report Card
National Assessment of Educational Progress

**"NAEP is the only assessment providing half a century of performance data to measure what students know and can do. The state and national trends inform local, state, and national program and policy discussions that improve teaching and learning."**

– David Atherton, EdD, Former Principal, Clear Creek Middle School, Gresham, OR

## What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an integral measure of academic progress across the nation and over time. It is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in various subjects such as civics, mathematics, reading, science, and U.S. history. The program also provides valuable insights into students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn in and outside of the classroom.

NAEP is a congressionally mandated program administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences.

The National Assessment Governing Board—an independent, bipartisan organization made up of governors, state legislators, state school superintendents, teachers, researchers, and representatives of the general public—sets policy for NAEP.

## What NAEP assessments will be administered in 2027?

The 2027 program will include

- a grade 8 science pilot assessment; and
- survey questionnaires for participating students, teachers, and school administrators to provide a better understanding of students' educational experiences.

NCES will administer the assessment between January 25 and March 19, 2027.

NCES will not release results from the pilot assessment but will use the results to inform future assessments.

## Why should my district participate in NAEP?

Your district's participation is vitally important for several reasons.

- The Governing Board adopted a new framework for the science assessment that will be implemented in 2028. Updating assessment frameworks in regular intervals ensures that NAEP remains relevant to how and what students are learning in the classroom. By participating in the 2027 pilot assessment, your district will help ensure the new assessment questions are valid and a reliable measure of student achievement.
- Schools and students selected to participate in NAEP represent schools and students across the nation. Each school's participation is critical and contributes to the understanding of students' educational progress across the United States.

## What will students in my district do?

Students participating in the 2027 pilot assessment will complete

- assessment items in science; and, if applicable,
- survey questionnaires that provide valuable information about their educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom.

Students are given approximately 2 hours to complete the assessment unless accommodations are provided. The 2-hour assessment window includes time for students to transition to and from the assessment location, receive directions, and complete survey questionnaires. A broad range of accessibility supports are provided for students with disabilities and English learners.

Students will take the assessment using school devices or NAEP devices. NAEP representatives will contact your district in the coming months with more information.

## Do teachers need to prepare students for the assessment?

Teachers do not need to prepare their students to take the assessment but should encourage them to do their best.

## Who will administer NAEP? What do schools need to provide on the day of the assessment?

NAEP representatives will administer the assessment and provide significant support to schools on assessment day. Schools will need to provide space for students to take the assessment, desks or tables, and an adequate number of electrical outlets in the assessment location.

- In schools where the assessment will be administered using school devices, school and/or district staff who have experience with the devices and technology used by the school will be asked to be available during the testing session(s).
- In schools where the assessment will be administered using NAEP devices, NAEP representatives will bring all necessary materials and equipment to assess the students.

## How were schools in my district selected for NAEP?

Schools were selected as part of a carefully designed sampling process that ensures NAEP-selected schools and students are representative of the nation. Learn more at https://nationsreportcard.gov/focus_on_naep/assessment_literacy/#/sampling.

## How can school administrators and teachers use NAEP data to help our students?

School administrators and teachers can view NAEP data online at https://nationsreportcard.gov. Through NAEP data, you can examine the relationships between student performance and factors such as demographics, school location, instructional practices, and more.

Questions from previous NAEP assessments can also be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom. Teachers can use the NAEP Questions Tool (https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nqt) to see how their students' performance compares to peers across the nation. Released NAEP questions come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data.

## How long has NAEP been around?

NAEP was first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. In 1990, NAEP was administered at the state level for the first time. The NAEP Trends in Urban Districts Assessment (TUDA) program, which measures student achievement in some of the nation's large urban districts, began in 2002.

## Where can I find more information?

Learn more about the NAEP program at https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard, and explore the latest NAEP results at https://nationsreportcard.gov.

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