

Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM) Alternate Assessment Training for Teachers

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New Hampshire

Department of Education

Introductions



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Agenda

- Overview of the Statewide Assessments
- What is the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment?
- DLM Test Administration Window
- Participation Criteria for Alternate Assessment
- 1% Cap on Participation in the Alternate Assessment
- Annual Test Administrator Training
- Tasks to Complete Prior to Test Administration
- Test Security
- Student Testlets & Testlet Information Pages
- Kite Educator Portal and Student Portal
- Practice Tests
- Educator Resources and Professional Development

Statewide Assessments

NH SAS: New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System. NH students participate in the NH SAS, the general statewide assessment, for English language arts, mathematics and science.

SAT School Day: NH students in grade 11 participate in the College Board state provided SAT with Essay.

DLM: Dynamic Learning Maps. NH offers the DLM Alternate Assessment for students with the most significant disabilities.

ACCESS/Alt ACCESS for English Language Learners: Federal law requires that EL students be assessed annually to measure English proficiency.

NAEP: National Assessment of Educational Progress—”The Nation’s Report Card”

New Hampshire Statewide Assessment Program

Annually, New Hampshire school districts and chartered public schools are required by state law RSA 193-C and federal accountability laws—Every Student Succeeds Act—to assess students using a standardized assessment.

[Office of Assessment | Department of Education \(nh.gov\)](https://www.nh.gov/education/assessment)

Annual Statewide Assessments

General Assessment	Grades	Content
NH Statewide Assessment System (NH SAS)	3 rd -8 th	English Language Arts, Mathematics
NH SAS	5 th , 8 th and 11 th	Science
SAT School Day	11 th	English Language Arts, Mathematics
Alternate Assessment	Grades	Content
Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)	3 rd -8 th and 11 th	English Language Arts, Mathematics
DLM	5 th , 8 th and 11 th	Science
English Language Proficiency	Grades	Domains
ACCESS	K-12	Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking
ALT-ACCESS	K-12	Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking

DLM Overview

- DLM alternate assessment is a computer-based assessment system designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.
- Due to the nature and severity of their disabilities these students are unable to participate in the general assessment, even with accommodations.
- New Hampshire students in grades 3–8 and 11 participate in the English language arts and math assessments.
- New Hampshire students in grades 5, 8, and 11 participate in the science assessment.

Test Administration Window

- **IMPORTANT:** NHED registers students based on data in i4see. Be sure to have your [Local Security Administrator](#) pull an AOY, as soon as possible so that you have time for testing.
- New Hampshire uses the Year-End model (end-of-year spring assessment)
- DLM Test Administration Window: **March 10 – June 6, 2025**
- Educators should plan their schedules to ensure students complete testing by the end of the testing window
 - **Last day** of testing is Friday, June 6, 2025

DLM Alternate Assessment

“Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments are for students with the **most significant cognitive disabilities** for whom general state assessments are not appropriate, even with accommodations. DLM assessments offer these students a way to show what they know and can do in English language arts, mathematics, and science.”

[DLM Assessments | Dynamic Learning Maps](#)

Participation Criteria for the Alternate Assessment

The IEP Team makes the decision on whether a student with disabilities meets the participation criteria for the alternate assessment.

- [Alternate Assessment Decision Making Worksheet](#) is used to make this determination.
- Student must meet ALL the criteria outlined on the Decision-Making Worksheet.

Decisions for determining participation in the alternate assessment must not be based **solely** on any of the following:

- A disability category or label
- Poor attendance or extended absences
- Native language/social/cultural or economic difference
- Expected poor performance on the general statewide assessment
- Academic and other services the student receives
- Educational environment or instructional setting
- Percent of time receiving special education
- English Learner (EL) status
- Low reading level/achievement level
- Anticipated student's disruptive behavior
- Impact of student scores on accountability system
- Administrator decision
- Anticipated emotional distress
- Need for accommodations (e.g., assistive technology/Augmentative and Alternative Communication) to participate in the assessment

Federal Regulations

1. [Title 34](#)
2. [Subtitle B](#)
3. [Chapter II](#)
4. [Part 200](#)
5. [Subpart A](#)
6. [Standards and Assessments](#)
7. [§ 200.6](#)

(3) A State must—

(i) Not prohibit an LEA from assessing more than 1.0 percent of its assessed students in any subject for which assessments are administered under [§ 200.2\(a\)\(1\)](#) with an alternate assessment aligned with alternate academic achievement standards;

(ii) Require that an LEA submit information justifying the need of the LEA to assess more than 1.0 percent of its assessed students in any such subject with such an alternate assessment;

(iii) Provide appropriate oversight, as determined by the State, of an LEA that is required to submit information to the State; and

(iv) Make the information submitted by an LEA under [paragraph \(c\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#) of this section publicly available, provided that such information does not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

[eCFR :: 34 CFR 200.6 -- Inclusion of all students.](#)

Exceeding 1% Cap on Participation in the Alternate Assessment

- Districts exceeding or that anticipate exceeding the 1% alternate assessment participation cap must complete the [Justification Form](#).

Test Administrator Responsibilities

Test administrators:

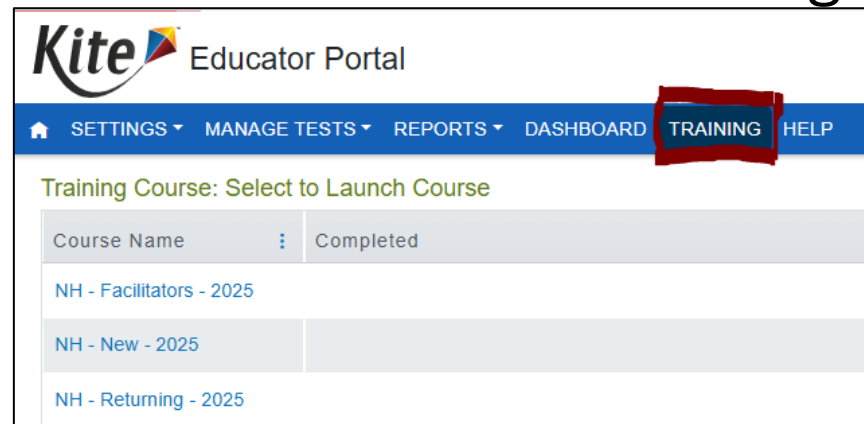
- Must be a New Hampshire certified teacher
- Assist the student's IEP team in the selection of accessibility features and necessary supports for the alternate assessment
 - Helpful resource: [Accessibility Manual](#)
- Complete First Contact Survey and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile for each student
- Confirm the correct students are on assigned rosters in Kite Educator Portal
- Review and administer DLM practice tests. Teachers can review the practice test first and then use with students.
- Administer the alternate assessment to students and maintain test security

Most Common User Roles

- **Teacher/Test Administrator role** administers the assessment
- **Building Test Coordinator role** creates/edits user accounts, rosters at the building level
- **District Test Coordinator role** creates/edits user accounts, rosters at the district level
- **Building and District Test Coordinators:**
 - Point of contact for educators
 - Oversee and assist teachers in their roles
 - Ensure proper test administration
- District or building test coordinator creates user accounts for educators to access Kite Educator Portal to perform test related tasks prior to administering the alternate assessment

Required Test Administrator Training

- Annual requirement
- To access the online Required DLM Test Administrator Training:
 - Educator **must first** activate their Kite Educator Portal account
 - Training is accessed in Educator Portal via the Training tab



Helpful Resource: [Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training](#)

Training Content for New Test Administrators

- Module 1: Overview of the DLM Alternate Assessment
- Module 2: Understanding and Delivering Testlets
- Module 3: Test Administration and Scoring
- Module 4: Becoming Familiar with DLM Resources
- *Who are Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities?*

Total training time for new test administrators is approximately 2 ½ hours

Training Options



Self-directed Training

- Individual training completed at your own pace.
- To access training:
 - Login to Kite Educator Portal
 - Click 'Training' tab
 - Select *Self-Directed Training*
 - View module(s) and complete assigned post-test(s)
- Individual post-tests for each of the four modules must be completed with a score of 80% or better.
- A score below 80%, teacher reviews training modules again and retakes the post-test(s), as many times as necessary to score 80% or better.

Training for Returning Test Administrators

- One training module: Overarching review of the DLM Alternate Assessment and any updates for the administration
- After viewing the module, test administrator independently completes the four-part post-test
- Total training time for returning test administrators is approximately 1-1 ½ hours

Successful Completion of Required Training

- Completion certificate will become available once training is successfully completed. It is recommended to print or save for your records.
- Wait 30 minutes after selecting the completion certificate to access your students in Educator Portal.

Tasks to Complete Prior to Test Administration

- Know who your Point of Contact is at the building and/or district level
 - Contact your Student Services or Special Education Office
- ★ • **New educators:** Request an **Educator Portal user account** from building or district test coordinator
- Complete **Required Test Administrator Training** in Kite Educator Portal
- Review **DLM resources** including test blueprints, manuals, etc., and **professional development modules** as needed
- Review, complete, and submit **First Contact Survey and Personal Needs and Preferences Profile** once rosters are assigned by building or district test coordinator
- Prepare student for the assessment by using the **practice tests**
- Plan **testing schedule**
- Administer the DLM alternate assessment **March 10 - June 6, 2025**

Test Security

- Test administrators are expected to administer the assessments with integrity and maintain security of all test materials, i.e., test tickets, test information pages
- All staff involved in administering the assessment must sign the [Affirmation of Test Security Assurances](#) form (kept on file by Building Principal)
- Student information is confidential. Please do not share a student's name or date of birth via email. Always refer to a student by their SASID available in Educator Portal
- Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Do not take photos of any testlet
 - Do not take photos of students taking the assessment
- Keep test tickets in a secure location prior to testing
- Shred test tickets and testlet information pages after student has completed testing

Test Administration Practices

Allowed



- Taking breaks
- Logging into Student Portal for student, navigating across screens and entering student responses
- Using special equipment for positioning
- Using an interactive whiteboard to project testlets (ensuring no other students can see testlets)
- Human read aloud

Not Allowed



- Influencing a student's response
- Hints or hand-over-hand guidance
- Previewing testlets ahead of time then teaching student the answers

Student Testlets

New Hampshire students are tested in grades 3-8 & 11 in ELA and math; science in grades 5, 8 & 11

- DLM assessments are delivered as **testlets**, one at a time.
- **ELA:** 9 testlets regardless of grade, one is the writing testlet
- **Math:** 6-8 testlets depending on grade
- **Science:** 9 testlets regardless of grade
- Total of **16-26 testlets** per student; takes about **5-20 minutes** to complete a testlet
- **Item types** include multiple choice, sorting, matching and select text

Grade	ELA Testlets	Mathematics Testlets	Science Testlets
3	9	8	N/A
4	9	8	N/A
5	9	8	9
6	9	7	N/A
7	9	7	N/A
8	9	8	9
11	9	6	9

Types of Testlets

- **Computer-Delivered**

- Testlets delivered directly to students via computer
- Students can interact independently using special devices (i.e., alternate keyboards, touch screens, switches), as necessary
- Test administrator may navigate the screen for the student and enter student responses, if needed

- **Teacher-Administered**

- Test administrator plays a more direct role than in computer-delivered testlets
- Test administrator sets up, delivers and enters student responses
- Testlets at the lowest linkage levels

Students may take as many breaks as needed during or between testlets

Testlet Information Pages

Testlet Information Pages (TIPs) **MUST** be used by test administrators for administering each specific testlet:

- TIPs are found in Kite Educator Portal under Test Management tab
- Provide materials needed for administration of the testlet
 - Recommended materials
 - Substitution examples
- Test administrators may substitute materials where appropriate that are used during instruction and student is familiar with
- Description of allowable supports

Helpful Resource:

https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/documents/ERP/About_TIPs.pdf

DLM Content

- DLM testlets consist of several items written to a standard, called an Essential Element.
- Essential Elements are aligned with national and state curriculum standards.
- Focus on specific academic targets and the learning maps help show how students could reach these standards.
- Codes relate to common standards.
 - For example, M.EE.4.OA.1-2. Demonstrate the connection between repeated addition and multiplication.

[Complete List of Essential Elements for English Language Arts \(pdf\)](#)

comprehensive list of all ELA Essential Elements currently part of the DLM learning map model

[Complete List of Essential Elements for Mathematics \(pdf\)](#)

comprehensive list of all Mathematics Essential Elements currently part of the DLM learning map model

[Essential Elements for Science \(pdf\)](#)

<https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/newhampshire>

Assessment Delivery



EDUCATOR
PORTAL

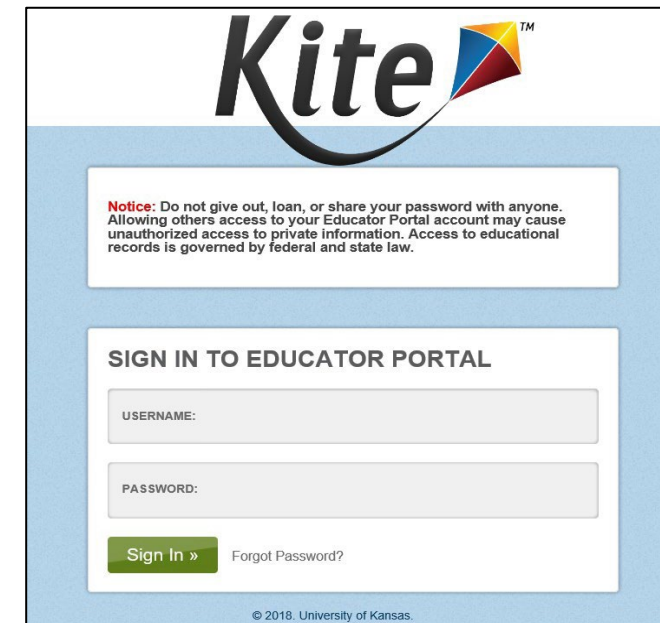
STUDENT
PORTAL

Kite Educator Portal

- Staff and educators have accounts in Kite Educator Portal
- Educator Portal is where staff and educators manage students, users and tasks related to student testing.
- Once user account is created, educator receives an activation email from kite.support@ku.edu with password instructions
- Username is your school email
- Access via Internet: <https://educator.kiteaai.org/>
- Do not share your password

Note:

All users must accept the security agreement terms to have access to Educator Portal



The screenshot shows the Kite Educator Portal login interface. At the top is the Kite logo, which consists of the word "Kite" in a bold, sans-serif font with a stylized kite graphic to its right. Below the logo is a light blue header bar. Underneath the header is a white box containing a red "Notice" about password security. Below the notice is a white box with the title "SIGN IN TO EDUCATOR PORTAL". This box contains two input fields: "USERNAME:" and "PASSWORD:". Below the password field is a green "Sign In »" button and a link for "Forgot Password?". At the bottom of the page, there is a small copyright notice: "© 2018. University of Kansas."



ANNOUNCEMENTS		
Remove User vs Deactivate User	Read More	11/09/2023 ^
Compatible OS Platforms for Kite Student Portal	Read More	10/05/2023
Kite Educator Portal Login Attempts	Read More	10/02/2023 v



My Profile



Quick Links

- Students
- Rosters
- Monitor Session
- Extracts



In Educator Portal, test administrators:

- Review students and rosters
- Complete *First Contact Survey* and *Personal Needs & Preferences* (PNP)
- Retrieve student username and password (test ticket), Test Information Pages (TIPs)

Student's Personal Learning Profile

First Contact Survey



Personal Needs and Preferences

- **Resources:**

- 11-minute video on how to complete First Contact Survey and Personal Needs and Preferences

- First Contact Survey questions available in [Test Administration Manual](#) (page 149)

Special Education Services

Select the student's Primary Disability *

Primary Disability

Educational Placement: Choose the option that best describes the student's educational placement. "Regular Class" means a typical, general education classroom, not a resource room or separate special education classroom. *

80% or more of the day in Regular Class

40%–79% of the day in Regular Class

Summary Display Enhancements Language & Braille Audio & Environment Support Other Supports

Student Demographics Current Profile Settings Edit Settings

FIRST NAME:

MIDDLE NAME:

LAST NAME:

STATE ID:

GRADE:

GENDER:

DATE OF BIRTH:

No accessibility preferences have been set

[Completing the First Contact Survey and PNP Profile help video](#)

Personal Learning Profile

First Contact Survey

Collects background information about students:

- Primary disability
- Communication
- Computer access
- Vision and Hearing
- Academic performance

Review list of questions on page 149 of [Test Administration Manual](#)

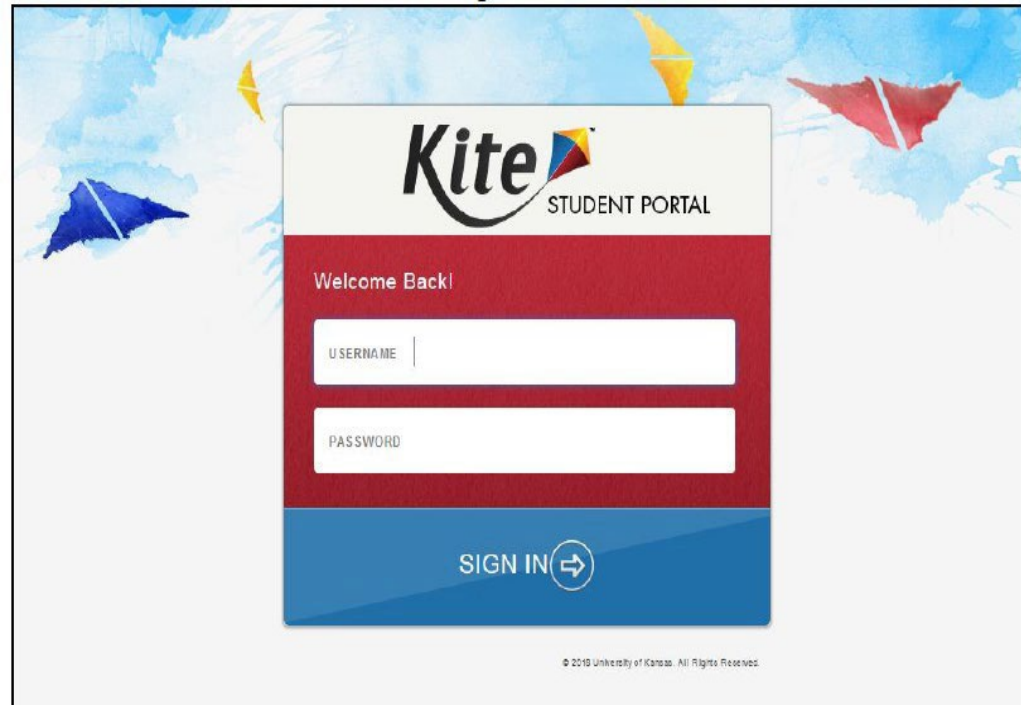
Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Accessibility Supports

Student-specific information:

- Display Enhancements – magnification, contrast color
- Braille
- Audio and Environmental Support- Spoken Audio and Single Switches
- Other Supports – Human Read Aloud

Kite Student Portal

- Secure testing platform
- Install Student Portal on testing device
- [Kite Suite](#) on the DLM website provides installation instructions



Practice Tests

- Student demo accounts are provided in the [Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets](#)
- Access practice tests in Kite Student Portal
- Current version of Kite Student Portal must be installed on device before accessing practice tests
 - Student portal installation instructions: <https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/kite>
 - Practice testlets available for ELA, mathematics, and science
 - Certain supports chosen by teacher, i.e., magnification, spoken audio, switch

Recommended Reading

- [**Accessibility Manual**](#) provides guidance to IEP Teams on the selection and use of supports
 - Six-step process for choosing appropriate supports for each student
- [**Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training**](#) provides step-by-step instructions for completing the required training
- [**Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets**](#) familiarizes educators and students with testlets and Student Portal. Step-by-step instructions for using the practice tests.
- [**Test Administration Manual**](#) supports educators in planning for the DLM assessment. Includes Kite Student Portal User Guide
- [**Educator Portal User Guide**](#) provides step-by-step instructions for using Educator Portal for tasks that need to be completed prior to testing.
- [**Quick DLM Reference and Resource Guide**](#) directs educators where frequently accessed resources are located.

Resource Videos

- It is highly recommended to view the [Educator Resource Videos](#) available on New Hampshire's DLM webpage.
 - Getting Started in Educator Portal
 - How to complete First Contact Survey and PNP Profile
 - Testlet Overview
 - Using Kite Student Portal

Note: DLM Instructionally Embedded Assessments and Using the Instruction and Assessment Planner videos refer to a yearlong assessment which other states use for their summative assessment. NH educators may use with students.

- These videos are very helpful when viewed along with the required training modules.

Professional Development Resources


- [DLM Professional Development Modules](#) provide educators with valuable information on the design and delivery of the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment.
- Educators are encouraged to view the professional development resources.
- Most helpful for educators who work with students with the most complex needs.
- Educators may select topics based on their interest in specific areas.
- Topics include effective practices for mathematics, writing, reading, and science instruction that are useful in the classroom.

State Specific DLM Webpage

<https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/newhampshire>

The screenshot shows the Dynamic Learning Maps website interface for New Hampshire. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS logo on the left and links for Kite Suite, Educator Portal, Professional Development, SEA Login, and Training Courses on the right. Below this is a dark blue header with dropdown menus for About DLM, For States (selected), Instructional Resources, and Research, along with a search bar. The main content area is titled "New Hampshire" and features a map of the state. To the right of the map, there are sections for Model (Year-End), Testing Subjects (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science), 2024-25 Testing Windows (Instructionally Embedded: 09/09/24-02/21/25, Spring: 03/10/25-06/06/25), and Contacts (Kelly Ickes, Assessment; JoAnn Marchant, Special Education). Below the map is a "Filter Results" section with radio buttons for Role (All, Teacher, Assessment Coordinator, Data Manager, Technology Manager, Parent) and Resource Category (All, Assessment Resources, Instructional Resources). To the right of the filters is a "Resources" section with three highlighted items: "Accessibility Manual (pdf) 07/01/2024" (provides guidance on the selection and use of accessibility features), "Assessment Coordinator Manual for Year-End Model States (pdf) 07/01/2024" (supports district and building staff to prepare for and monitor assessments), and "Blueprint English Language Arts for Year-End Model States (pdf)" (pool of available Essential Elements (EEs) and the requirements for coverage within each conceptual area). A fourth resource, "Blueprint Mathematics for Year-End Model (pdf)", is also listed below.

Resources available at: <https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/newhampshire>

Parents	Educators	District/Building Staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets• Decision Making Worksheet• Parent Interpretive Guide (English & Spanish versions)• Professional Development site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility Manual• Educator Portal User Guide• Guide to DLM Required Training• Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets• Test Administration Manual• Test Blueprints• DLM Familiar Texts for ELA and Mathematics Glossary• Overview of DLM Writing Testlets• Professional Development site• Educator Resource videos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility Manual• Assessment Coordinator Manual• Data Management Manual• District Staff video resources• Educator Portal User Guide• Technology Specification Manual

Contact Information

Office of Assessment

- [Assessment & Accountability Helpdesk](#)

- **General Email:** Assessment@doe.nh.gov

- Kelly Ickes, Alt-ELP Assessment Specialist

Cell: (603) 931-9841, **Email:** Kelly.A.Ickes@doe.nh.gov

- Michelle Gauthier, Assessment Specialist

Tel: (603) 271-3582, **Email:** Michelle.E.Gauthier@doe.nh.gov

Bureau of Special Education

- JoAnn Marchant, Ed.D., Education Consultant

Tel: (603) 271-3791, **Email:** JoAnn.R.Marchant@doe.nh.gov

Office of Assessment

Statewide assessments support student learning and measure students' academic achievement

New Hampshire Statewide Assessment

Annually, New Hampshire school districts and public charter schools are required by state law ([RSA 193-C](#)) and federal accountability laws ([Every Student Succeeds Act](#)) to assess students using a standardized assessment. Several assessments, outlined below, are utilized in order to comply with these requirements. [One-page description of statewide assessments](#).

Statewide assessments are an important part of a student's core educational program by providing:

- An evaluation of student mastery of content and skills in various academic areas
- Serve as one tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high school and are college- and career-ready
- Help inform future instruction in the classroom

Along with student work on classroom assignments, projects, essays and local assessments, state assessment results give teachers, parents, and the community important information about where students are on their path toward academic success.

[2024-2025 Schedule](#)

[General Information & Resources](#)

[Professional Development](#)

[Assessment & Accountability Conference](#)

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