

Waunakee Community School District

2026-2027 Assessments & Their Purpose

Local District Assessments

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
AimsWeb	K-10	September 2026 - May 2027	Progress monitor	Aimswb Plus is a progress monitor used to determine student progress if they are receiving an academic intervention..
iReady (ELA and Math)	K-8	FALL: Sept. 9-25, 2026 WINTER: Jan. 11-29, 2027 SPRING: May 11-26, 2027	Universal screener, achievement measure, and growth measure	District selected. i-Ready is a computer adaptive assessment. We use it as a universal screener, achievement measure, and growth measure. We also have personalized instruction resources customized for each student based on their i-Ready performance.
Naglieri General Ability Test (NGAT)	2	October 12-November 20	District selected screener for advanced	Naglieri General Ability Tests (NGAT) measure general ability using verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal test questions. The NGAT includes approaches to test construction that allow schools to identify students with high intellectual ability in a fair and equitable manner. To achieve that goal, the newest version of the NGAT can be solved regardless of

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
			learning	the language a student knows and the test questions demand only a small amount of specific content knowledge.
Gates / McGinnitie	7-8	Late winter 2027	Achievement placement for AE9	District Selected. The Gates-McGinnitie Reading Test (GMRT) measures overall reading achievement. It can be utilized for several purposes, but we use it to add a data point to guide our placement recommendations for our advanced English sections.
Local PreACT	9, 10, 11	October 7, 2026	District Selected (Achievement)	PreACT is a local, non-secure version of the PreACT assessment given to 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students that is aligned to the ACT and the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. The PreACT measures what students have learned in the areas of English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. In the non-secure version, we will receive item analysis information that will help prepare students for WI PreACT Secure and WI ACT in the state testing window. PreACT Secure scores predict how students will perform on the PreACT Secure and ACT, and their readiness for college-level coursework. PreACT is an online assessment.

WI State Assessment System

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
AimswEBPlus (Early Literacy and Reading)	4K-3	4K: - FALL: Sept. 14-18, 2026 - SPRING: April 12-16, 2027 K-3: - FALL: Sept. 8 - Oct. 9, 2026 - WINTER: Nov. 30 - Dec. 11, 2026 - SPRING (K-3): April 5-16, 2027	State & District required screener for early literacy	State selected. The State of Wisconsin has selected AimswEBPlus as the statewide reading screener as part of the ACT 20 mandates. We use AimswEBPlus as the state required screener for reading 4K-3.
Wisconsin Forward Exam	3-8, 10	WI test window: March 15 - April 23, 2027	State selected (All students)	The WI Forward Exam is a computer-based assessment that provides in-depth information on students' achievement on the state standards. Students in grades 3-8 are assessed in English Language Arts and Math. Students in grades 4 and 8 will also be assessed in Science and Social Studies. Students in grade 10 are tested in Social Studies only. Forward Exam data is received in late May and provides useful information on student achievement and also year-to-year growth. It is a significant data source for state and federal accountability. The Forward Exam is also used to identify students for intervention and advanced programming.

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
WI PreACT Secure	9, 10	WI test window: March 15 - April 23, 2027	State Selected (Achievement)	PreACT Secure is a summative assessment given to 9th and 10th grade students that is aligned to the ACT and the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. PreACT Secure measures what students have learned in the areas of English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The PreACT Secure closely mirrors the ACT in many ways, including implementation, test delivery, scoring, and reporting. PreACT Secure scores predict how students will perform on the ACT when they reach 11th grade and their readiness for college-level coursework. PreACT Secure is an online assessment.
WI ACT	11	Test Date: March 9, 2027 Make-up: April 6, 2027	State selected (All students)	Proficiency and College Entrance. The ACT Plus Writing consists of four multiple-choice tests: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science; and a 40-minute essay test that measures writing skills. It provides important and well-recognized information on the state standards, ACT College Readiness Standards and Benchmarks. Students receive their individual scores within 3-6 weeks following the exam, but we receive our summary data in April. ACT data plays an important role in college admissions and the state and federal accountability system. We also use it as an important measure of academic performance for our school district.
Dynamic	3-11	WI test window:	State	The DLM™ assessment measures the academic progress of students

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
Learning Maps (DLM)		March 15 - April 23, 2027	Selected (Alternative Assessment)	with the most significant cognitive disabilities in the subject areas of ELA and Mathematics at grades 3-11, Science at grades 4 and 8-11, and in Social Studies at grades 4, 8, and 10. This is an online assessment delivered via the computer; however, some students may need their teacher to present the items to them. The teacher will then enter the student's response into the online platform. The DLM system is designed to map a student's learning throughout the year. The system will also use items and tasks that are embedded in day-to-day instruction. Instruction for these students is based upon the Wisconsin Essential Elements and aligns with the Wisconsin Academic Standards. This gives teachers the opportunity to see what students know during the year when teachers still have time to change instruction to better support student learning.
ACCESS for ELLs	K-12	November 30, 2026 - January 29, 2027	State Selected (ELP Monitoring)	ACCESS for ELLs is an annual assessment of the developing social and academic English language proficiency (ELP) of English learners (ELs) in grades K through 12. This assessment allows educators, students, and families to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English in the domains of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ACCESS for ELLs is aligned with WIDA's English Language Development (ELD) Standards.

National Assessments

Assessment	Grades Tested	Test Window	Type	Purpose
Advanced Placement (AP) Exams	11-12	May 3-14, 2027	Student selected (College Entrance)	Capstone assessment for College Board Advanced Placement Courses. AP Exams allow students to earn college placement and sometimes credit. Most students in AP classes take the exam, but students have a choice not to take the exam. In addition to college use, AP data is used to evaluate improvement opportunities for the delivery of our AP courses.
PSAT / NMSQT	11	October 21, 2026	Student selected (College Prep, Scholarship)	The PSAT/NMSQT is a standardized test that provides first-hand practice for the SAT. It also provides juniors an opportunity to enter National Merit scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools. The PSAT/NMSQT measures critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills, and writing skills.