



Maine Through Year & Maine Science Assessments: September Updates

Assessment Team Office Hours: [Registration Link](#)

2nd Wednesday of every month, 12:00-1:00 PM

Assessment Team Resources

1. [Maine Comprehensive Assessment System Guidelines](#)
2. [Assessment Security Webpage](#)
3. [Maine Assessment Calendar](#)

NWEA Maine Through Year Assessment

Maine DOE Assessment Coordinator: **Krista Averill**

Contact Krista at Krista.Averill@maine.gov or 207-215-6528.

Spring 2024 RIT Score Recalculation

On August 22, 2024, the Maine Department of Education (DOE) posted a Priority Notice regarding the recalculation of spring 2024 RIT scores from the Maine Through Year Assessment: [Spring 2024 RIT Score Information](#).

All student reports containing RIT score data were impacted by the rescoring, including the RIT report, dynamic Student Report, and Individual Student Report in Acacia as well as all MAP Growth reports.

Individual Student Reports (ISRs)

Per the Every Student Succeeds Act, schools are required to distribute a report of student performance according to grade-level state standards, and that report must be uniform across the State of Maine. The Individual Student Report (ISR) in Acacia meets the requirements defined by federal statute, and all schools are required to distribute ISRs to students' families.

For spring 2024, the Individual Student Report has been modified to only one page, removing references to Instructional Area RIT scores. SAUs are required to distribute the Individual Student Report to families in addition to a supplemental page that provides contextual information regarding specific skills being measured at that grade level. The supplemental page must be provided with the one-page ISR as it is replacing the information about specific skills being assessed previously contained within the Instructional Area descriptions on page 2. You can access the supplemental pages for families on the Maine Through Year Assessment webpage under the *Individual Student Report (ISR) Templates* drop-down menu. Translations of the supplemental page for each grade level will become available early to mid September.

If the school/SAU previously provided other reports on student performance from either the MAP Growth or Acacia platforms, the Individual Student Report (ISR) still must be distributed to families with the supplemental page.

Please direct all questions regarding the rescoring to Krista Averill at Krista.Averill@maine.gov.

Fall 2024 Administration

The Fall 2024 Through Year Assessment administration window is September 16 through October 25.

Acacia opens for pre-administration activities on September 3. Students were first rostered in Acacia on August 30, with daily change files running each business day through the end of the administration window. Students must be enrolled in Synergy in order to be reflected in the school's roster in Acacia. It is the responsibility of the SAU/school to ensure that students are enrolled in Synergy before the first day of the local administration schedule. The local administration schedule can occur at any time within the six-week state administration window, although it is strongly recommended to reserve the last week of the state window for make-up sessions.

Device Preparation

Download the most recent version of the [State Solutions Secure Browser](#). Older versions will need to be uninstalled prior to installation of the new version.

- [The Maine Through Year Assessment System and Technology Guide](#)
- [August 2024 Bulletin - Scrollbars iOS and macOS devices](#)

Preparation of Assessment Coordinators

Assessment Security Training

This school year, the 30-minute, synchronous assessment security training for District and School Assessment Coordinators has been replaced by an [asynchronous training video](#). After watching the video and reviewing the Assessment Security Handbook, the Assessment Coordinator will sign the MEA Assessment Security & Data Privacy Agreement, Appendix A in the [Assessment Security Handbook](#).

Maine Through Year Assessment: Assessment Coordinator Training

This school year, the 90-minute, synchronous assessment coordinator training for the Maine Through Year Assessment has been replaced by an asynchronous training module.

On August 26, all District Assessment Coordinators, as identified in NEO, received an email from NWEA outlining how to access the Assessment Coordinator Training. District Assessment Coordinators who did not receive this email, as well as School Assessment Coordinators, will need to request access to the training module by utilizing [this form](#).

The training module must be completed by the District and School Assessment Coordinators prior to the local administration of the fall assessment; after successful completion of the module, coordinators will download a certificate of completion to keep on file.

Representatives from NWEA's technology & operations team and/or program management team will be present at the September 11 Assessment Team Office Hour to answer your questions regarding pre-administration activities in the Acacia platform.

Preparation of Proctors

Assessment Security Training

Proctors are required to watch two assessment security trainings once per academic year:

- [Assessment Security Overview Training Webisode](#) (5 minutes)
- [Assessment Irregularities! What Now? Security Training Webisode](#) (3 minutes)

MEA Assessment Security & Data Privacy Agreement

Proctors are required to sign the MEA Assessment Security & Data Privacy Agreement once per academic year. The agreement is found in Appendix A of the [Assessment Security Handbook](#).

Maine Through Year Assessment Proctor Training Video

Proctors of the Maine Through Year Assessment are required to watch the [Maine Through Year Assessment Proctor Training Video](#) (9 minutes) once per academic year.

Virtual Educator Panel: High School Content & Bias Review

Maine DOE and NWEA are seeking education professionals to participate in the virtual high school content & bias review educator panel.

- **Purpose:** To review questions to ensure assessment material in math and reading is appropriate, free of bias, and aligned to Maine's accountability standards, the Common Core State Standards
- **Dates:** October 22-24, 2024 from 4:00-7:00 PM
- **Location:** Virtual, link will be provided by NWEA
- **Stipend:** \$525, includes attendance at all three evening virtual sessions, as well as 8-12 hours of pre-work (\$100 for each virtual evening session and \$225 for completion of pre-work)

If interested, please complete [this registration form](#). Maine DOE and NWEA will begin the process of approving and notifying applicants during the first week of September, and the process will continue until sufficient numbers of participants and alternate participants have been identified.

Professional Learning Opportunities

Understanding Scores from the Maine Through Year Assessment

Participants will learn about the two score types produced by the Maine Through Year Assessment, RIT scores and the Maine scale score, including their similarities, differences, and uses. Opportunities for Q&A will be provided, and participants may submit their questions prior to the session.

- Tuesday, September 24: 3:30-5:00 PM ([Registration Link](#))
- Thursday, October 10: 3:30-5:00 PM ([Registration Link](#))

NWEA Professional Learning Opportunities

Maine DOE and NWEA have developed several professional learning (PL) opportunities for the 2024-25 school year. Below are the offerings for this fall. Visit the [NWEA PL registration website](#) for more information.

*Balanced Assessment Systems for Leaders** ([Registration Link](#))

- Session 1: What are the main definitions and attributes of an effective, balanced assessment system?
 - September 17, 3:30-4:30 PM
 - September 18, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- Session 2: What are best practices for comprehensive assessment planning and improving student outcomes?
 - October 7, 3:30-4:30 PM
 - October 16, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

*Student-Centered Assessment Literacy** ([Registration Link](#))

- Session 1: What is assessment literacy? What helps make assessment processes and practices matter to students?

- November 12, 3:00-4:30 PM
- Session 2: Which structures and strategies support a culture of learning? How do you use classroom assessment tools to build assessment literacy?
 - November 14, 3:00-4:30 PM

Using Achievement Level Descriptors to Ensure Classroom Rigor ([Registration Link](#))

- October 17, 3:00-4:30 PM

Triangulating Data for Instructional Insights ([Registration Link](#))

- October 15, 3:00-4:30 PM

*Participants may attend either session or both sessions. Attendance at session 1 is not necessary for attendance at session 2.

Maine Science Assessment

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Student Score Reports

Spring 2024 SAU, school, and student reports will be available in mid-October 2024 in the [Kite Reporting Platform](#).

Looking Ahead to Spring 2025

Administration Schedule: The high school administration window has been moved earlier in April to avoid an overlap with AP exams.

- High School: April 2-17, 2025
- Grades 5 and 8: May 12-23, 2025

Changes to the Administration

- ALL Grade Levels: Removal of Session 4 (Student Questionnaire)
- High School ONLY: Sessions 1, 2, and 3 reduced from 60 minutes each to 50 minutes each
 - There will be no change in the number of questions.
 - Spring 2022 and 2023 data reflect that nearly all high school students without extended time complete each session within 50 minutes.