

GRADE 12

NAEP In Your School

WHAT IS NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.

- ▶ NAEP, first administered in 1969, is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in core subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, and writing.
- ▶ The schools and students participating in NAEP represent other schools and students across the country.
- ▶ 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, state education staff, and teachers from around the nation.
- ▶ NAEP monitors academic progress over time and reports on student achievement nationally.

NAEP will be administered to a sample of twelfth-grade students in your school between January 23 and March 2, 2012. Students will participate in an economics assessment or a pilot in mathematics or reading. The results from the economics assessment will be available at the national level. The mathematics and reading pilot will be used to prepare for the NAEP 2013 assessments.

What is involved?

Nationally, approximately 12,000 students will be assessed in grade 12. Students will spend about 90 minutes completing the assessment, including answering questions in one subject area and questions about themselves and their educational experiences, such as the amount of reading they do and what types of classes they take.

The principal and the chairperson of the economics department at each school will also complete questionnaires. These questionnaires are designed to help provide contextual information for the assessments, as well as information about factors that may be related to students' learning.

Information will be collected about how selected students with disabilities and English language learners (SD/ELL) might participate in the assessment.

Who is responsible for coordinating and administering NAEP?

Your NAEP State Coordinator, NAEP field staff members, and school staff will work together to coordinate and administer the assessment. The NAEP field staff members will be responsible for administering the assessment.

A staff person in your school will need to be assigned to serve as the school coordinator, who will be the primary contact in the school for the assessment.



The NAEP State Coordinator works at your state Department of Education and will be responsible for:

- ▶ Working with schools to confirm the assessment date;
- ▶ Communicating with principals to convey the facts about NAEP and the importance of student participation;
- ▶ Providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eligible students (if required) and information about notifying parents of participating students;
- ▶ Providing guidance for including SD/ELL students; and
- ▶ Responding to questions from the school community throughout the assessment period.

NAEP staff members are employed by a U.S. Department of Education contractor to work directly with schools and will be responsible for:

- ▶ Selecting a random sample of students from the school list of eligible students;
- ▶ Sending a Preassessment Packet of information to the school coordinator;
- ▶ Visiting the school coordinator shortly after the Preassessment Packet is received to finalize assessment arrangements;
- ▶ Bringing all assessment materials to the school on the scheduled day; and
- ▶ Conducting the assessments.

Each principal will be responsible for:

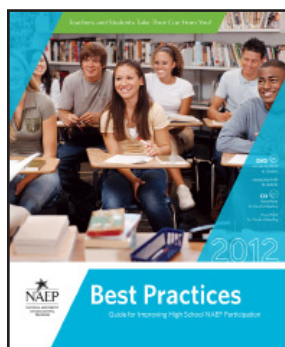
- ▶ Assigning a staff member to serve as school coordinator;
- ▶ Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar;

- ▶ Empowering the designated school coordinator to work with the NAEP staff and the NAEP State Coordinator to prepare for the assessment; and
- ▶ Informing school staff and students about NAEP and why student participation is critically important.

The school coordinator will be responsible for:

- ▶ Confirming with the NAEP State Coordinator that the suggested assessment date is convenient for the school;
- ▶ Providing NAEP with an electronic file of eligible students, if requested;
- ▶ Informing parents of the assessment (the NAEP State Coordinator will provide additional information about how this should be accomplished);
- ▶ Receiving the Preassessment Packet and making final preparations for the assessment;
- ▶ Meeting with the NAEP staff during the scheduled preassessment visit;
- ▶ Coordinating the inclusion of SD/ELL students; and
- ▶ Ensuring that there is a plan with school staff to achieve high participation of students at the assessment.

Detailed information about the school coordinator's responsibilities will be sent at the beginning of the school year.



Look for the *Best Practices Guide* later this year for strategies to improve twelfth-grade participation and engagement on NAEP.