

2011-2012

NAEP In Your School Long-Term Trend Assessment

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.

During the 2011-2012 school year, the NAEP long-term trend assessment will be administered in your school. This assessment, conducted nationwide every 4 years, has reported on trends in student achievement in mathematics and reading since the early 1970s. Assessments in mathematics and reading will be conducted with representative samples of 9-, 13-, and 17-year-old students on the following schedule:

Age 13: October 10, 2011- December 16, 2011

Age 9: January 9, 2012- March 16, 2012

Age 17: March 19, 2012- May 25, 2012

What is involved?

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

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

In addition, principals and some teachers of 13-year-old students will be asked to complete a questionnaire. These questionnaires are being piloted during the 2011-2012 long-term trend assessment to prepare for the collection of contextual information for the results of future assessments.

How many students are assessed?

Approximately 17,000 students at each age in each subject will be assessed to represent the nation in the long-term trend assessment. In most schools, the sample will be approximately 64 students.



For more information about NAEP, visit:
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>

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.

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.

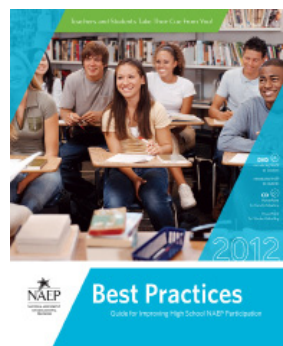
Each principal will be responsible for:

- ▶ Assigning a school coordinator;
- ▶ Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar;
- ▶ Empowering the designated school coordinator to work with the NAEP field 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; 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 high school participation and engagement on NAEP.