



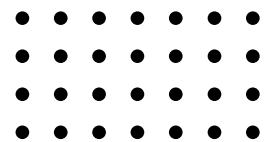
LEXINGTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ASSESSMENT GUIDE 2026-2027



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Assessment Practices



Lexington Public Schools uses assessment data to understand how well students are learning and to make informed decisions about instruction. The results help teachers identify students’ strengths and areas where they may need extra support. Assessment data also guides curriculum planning, monitors progress over time, and helps ensure all students are on the path to success.



Types of Assessments – What Do They Mean?

At Lexington Public Schools, we use a variety of assessments to help us understand how students are learning and how we can best support them. Here’s a quick guide to what each type of assessment means:

Nationally Normed Assessment	Benchmark Assessment	Interim Assessment	Summative Assessment	Formative Assessment
This test compares your child’s performance to that of students across the country. It helps us see how students are doing in relation to national expectations.	These are short tests given during the school year to check how well students are learning key skills. They help teachers know if students are on track or need extra help.	Interim assessments are given at specific times throughout the year to measure student growth and guide instruction. They show how students are progressing toward end-of-year goals.	These are tests given at the end of a unit, semester, or year to see what students have learned overall. They are like a final check of student learning.	These are quick, informal checks (like quizzes, class discussions, or practice work) that help teachers adjust instruction right away to support learning as it happens.

LPS Assessment System

ACT (American College Testing)

This timed college readiness assessment provides benchmark scores and is used by colleges for admissions and scholarships. Schools use results to evaluate instructional programs. This is required by the State of Nebraska and federally under ESSA. Standard time to complete test is between 3-4 hours.

CONTENT AREA ASSESSMENTS

These formative and summative assessments are designed to measure student progress, inform classroom instruction, and ensure students are gaining knowledge and skills.

DIBELS 8 (mClass) /LECTURA

This measures pre-reading & reading fluency skills. It utilized to determine the need for interventions. It used weekly, biweekly, or monthly to measure progress in interventions. This is required for the NE Reads K-3 benchmark assessment.

ELPA 21 (English Language Proficiency Assessment)

The ELPA 21 measures students' skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in English to determine how well they are progressing. The results help schools provide the right support to help students succeed in both language and academics. This is required by the State of Nebraska and federally under ESSA. Time required to complete the test varies by section but generally 3-4 hours total.

ALTERNATE ELPA 21

The Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessment is for English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities. This is required by the State of Nebraska and federally under ESSA. Time required to complete test varies by section.

ELPA 21 SCREENER

The ELPA 21 screener measures skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. This screener helps schools determine if a student needs additional support to develop English language proficiency. This is required for determination of eligibility for EL services.

FASTBRIDGE COMPefficiency Auto Reading

This benchmark assessment is used to provide instructional information and measures student progress in response to intervention.



GOLD

This observation-based formative assessment is used for early learning settings. This is required by the State of Nebraska.

IXL DIAGNOSTIC

This computer based nationally normed benchmark assessment is used to measure student knowledge of content and provide a starting point for an individual path of study and provide a measure of progress.

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) GROWTH

This nationally normed standardized computer-based adaptive assessment that provides information to guide instruction. It also provides summative information related to instruction, student progress, and student class placement. Provide district with similar data to compare across years. The spring test is an interim assessment.

NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

NAEP is a federal requirement that allows for comparisons of student performance between states and the nation. This also offers insights into how well students are performing against widely accepted national standards.

NSCAS (Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System)

This assessment measures student proficiency on the Nebraska State Standards in ELA, Math and Science. It is mandated by the State of Nebraska and federally under ESSA. Testing times vary by content area:

- ELA and Math each require approximately 90 minutes.
 - Science requires between 45 to 60 minutes to complete.
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NSCAS ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

The NSCAS alternate assessment is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities and is required by the State of Nebraska and federally under ESSA. Time required to complete assessment is 45-90 minutes

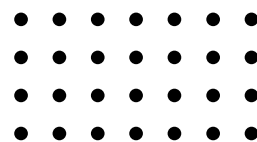
PELI (Preschool Early Literacy Indicators)

This district benchmark assessment measures pre-literacy and oral language scores in 3-4 year olds by using a story format. It used to identify students for intervention.

PRE-ACT

This district assessment provides instructional information and predictive information for student performance on ACT.



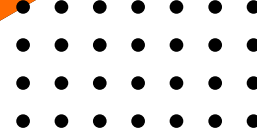


Assessment Timelines

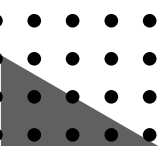
Assessment Name	Testing Dates	Who
FALL		
IXL Diagnostic	August 17-28	K-5
MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Growth Fall	August 17 - September 18	6-11 12 SPED/ EL academy
DIBELS 8 (mClass) / Lectura	August 17- September 11 (September 25 for K)	K- 5 (DIBELS) K-5 Bryan and EL newcomers (Lectura) 6-8 95% groups EL Academy only HS EL Academy
PELI (Preschool Early Literacy Indicators)	October 5-16	PK
GOLD	October 31	PK Required



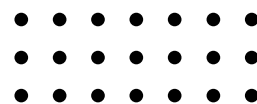
Assessment Timelines



Assessment Name	Testing Dates	Who
WINTER		
IXL Diagnostic	December 7-11	K-5
MAP Growth	December 1-18	6-8 12 SPED/ EL academy
PELI (Preschool Early Literacy Indicators)	December 7-20	PK
DIBELS 8 (mClass)/ Lectura	December 1-11	6-8 95% groups/EL Academy / HS EL Academy
DIBELS 8 (mClass)/ Lectura	January 4-22	K-5 (DIBELS) K-5 Bryan & EL newcomers (Lectura)
NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress)	TBD	Randomly selected students
ELPA 21 (English Language Proficiency Assessment)	January 25-March 12	All K-12 EL Students
Alt ELPA 21	TBD	EL k-12 students on Alternate Assessment
GOLD	February 15*	PK required for students entering K who did not test in fall



Assessment Timelines



Assessment Name	Testing Dates	Who
SPRING		
ACT	March 23 or April 6 Online make-up March 24, 30-31 April 1-2, 6-9, 12-16, 20-23, 26-30	All 11 th grade students
Pre-ACT	March 23-April 6	All 10 th grade students
NSCAS combined assessment	March 30-May 3 Make-ups May 3-7	3-8
NSCAS Alt assessment	March 30-May 3 Make-ups May 3-7	All 3-8, 11 th grade students qualifying for alternate assessment
MAP Growth	March 30-May 3 Make-ups May 3-7	9-10 11/12 SpEd & EL
DIBELS 8 (mClass)/ Lectura	April 26-May 14	K-5 (DIBELS) K-5 Bryan & EL newcomers (Lectura) 6-8 95% groups & EL Academy HS EL Academy
PELI (Preschool Early Literacy Indicators)	April 26-May 7	PK
IXL Diagnostic	April 30-May 6	K-5
GOLD	Spring Checklist May 31	PK Required
ELPA 21 Screener	Incoming K April 12-May 7 All other students upon registering	Students entering K who have language influences other than English

