

Ministry of Education (MoE) - National Agenda Parameter Required Testing Frequency and Subjects

- Schools must test with MAP (mathematics, reading, language usage) and MAP for Science times (3) per academic year.
- All students in Grades 3 – 9 must be tested

MoE Required Test Season Window Dates

- Testing must be declared complete and school-level reports must be ordered by season end dates, below, with schools allowing for at least 8 weeks of teaching in between test administrations:
 - Fall testing must take place between **August 15 and November 29**
 - Winter testing must take place between **December 2 and February 28**
 - Spring testing must take place between **March 3 and June 15**
- Students tested in the fall must be tested again in winter and spring
- Schools needing to extend their test windows must request an extension directly to the MoE for approval.

MoE National Agenda Parameter Emirati Student Data Requirement

- Schools are required to share or release all MAP testing data to the MoE.
- Emirati and SEN students' data must be disaggregated using the Programs template as a supplement to the Class Roster File each test season.
 - **The Ministry requires that schools customize the Programs File so that an 'Emirati' student designation appears**

MoE National Agenda Parameter Assessment Policy Requirements

Principals and school leadership teams are responsible for ensuring testing standards and best practices to ensure test security. School leaders must make every effort to maintain testing integrity as it pertains to the design, development, and operation of online MAP test administration to best prevent irregularities from occurring.

Schools are required to establish a written policy on MAP testing to delineate:

1. Retesting (only in rare circumstances)

- Provide school staff with guidelines on retesting that applies to every test term
- Define what a “substantial” decline in RIT score between two test events entails. **NOTE:** Students with a decline of 10 or fewer RIT points should not be retested.
- If asked, provide School Evaluator Teams with written rationale for why a test was terminated or why a student was retested.

Please see the following document for guidance and additional information:

<https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2017/04/Guidance-for-Administering-MAP-and-MPG-Assessments-When-Results-are-Used.pdf>

2. Accommodations

As with retesting, NWEA's best practice recommendation to school administrators is to develop a test accommodation policy for their school. Included in this policy should be a requirement for **documenting any accommodation assigned to a student, along with, the rationale as to why the accommodation meets the individual student's needs.** Creating written policies and procedures for assigning accommodations could be extremely helpful when analyzing data, especially if there is a drop in scores when accommodations are removed.

- Accommodations must be assigned or used on a case-by-case basis, accounted for in writing for each student provided with test accommodations, detailing why the accommodation was provided.
- Students with IEPs and/or SEN students can be assigned accommodations, depending on their needs as stipulated by the IEP.
- Students who are participating in a dedicated English Language Learner or EAL program can be assigned accommodations as per ELL Specialist teacher recommendation.

Please see the following document for guidance and additional information:

<https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2015/11/NWEA-Accessibility-and-Accommodations-External-FAQ-JUL17.pdf>

Achievement and Progress Measures

NWEA will provide Achievement and Progress Data Tables after winter and spring testing to schools that complete testing by the season end dates (above).

- Schools testing beyond February 28 (winter) or June 15 (spring) deadlines will need to manually generate their own Achievement and Progress data. NWEA will provide a guidance document on how to do so.

MAP System Guidelines and Recommended Resources

- All core MAP subject area teachers should have their own MARC-MAP system login credentials. Instructions on how to automate the staff login creation process can be found in MARC (**M**AP **A**dministration and **R**eporting **C**enter).
 - MAP system login credentials allow access to the free, online professional learning repository, NWEA Professional Learning Online

<https://community.nwea.org/community/professional-development/>
- Educators should complete 2-3 hours of role-based coursework prior to MoE evaluations. The following courses are recommended
 - MAP Basics (30 Minutes)
 - What Every Teacher Needs to Know about MAP Growth (30 Minutes)
 - Reports Basics for the Teacher (40 minutes)
 - Key Reports for Teachers/Key Reports for Administrators

- Schools are encouraged to test early learners (KG2-Grade 3) to allow for whole-school, longitudinal growth and achievement data.

Professional Learning Recommendations

MAP Leadership Summits in Dubai and Sharjah

NWEA will be offering 2 MAP Leadership Summits during the 2018-19 school year (November and April. Dates TBA). Lunch and snacks will be included on both days. Summit dates and registration information will be provided to schools by September 20, 2017

Onsite MAP Professional Learning for Individual Schools

Schools may contact Mr. Jorge Navarro (Jorge.navarro@nwea.org) to discuss onsite PL opportunities. NWEA will have both UAE- and U.S.-based trainers available for schools. For information, please see:

<https://www.nwea.org/professional-learning-overview/>

<https://www.nwea.org/formative-instructional-practice/>

<https://www.nwea.org/data-coaching-consulting/>

Virtual Consultations

Virtual Consultations are cost- and time-effective online consultations designed specifically for MAP school leadership teams. The consults take place via Skype or Adobe Connect, are tailored to meet individual school needs, and include 2 hours of live, online consultation.

- Virtual Consults are priced at \$500 USD
- Schools can arrange for Virtual Consults by contacting their NWEA Account Manager